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## Govendo's house burglarized; pistol, ammunition are stolen

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

A habitual offender allegedly burglarized the residence of Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo in Dandan and stole the judge's government-issued 9mm pistol and several ammunitions on Thursday.



Kaipat

Cling Philip Kaipat, 19, was taken to court for a bail hearing on Friday on charges of burglary, theft, and other offenses pertaining to illegal carrying of firearm.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman imposed a \$50,000 cash bail and set

the preliminary hearing for Nov. 10 at 1:30pm.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Kaipat. Assistant attorney general Heather Barcinas appeared for the government.

Police said a surveillance camera at a nearby store led to the identification and arrest of Kaipat, who then led in-

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Temp casino grand opening on Nov. 27

By DENNIS B. CHAN  
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REPORTER

Mark Brown, the chief executive officer of Best Sunshine International, Ltd., said Friday piling is ongoing at the construction site of their \$500-million casino resort in Garapan, and that the completion date is still on target for December 2016. Meantime, Best Sunshine has scheduled Nov. 27 as the grand opening date of their temporary casino in T Galleria.

"The piling is going in. We are still on target," he said.

Brown said Ji Xiabao, project director of the casino resort project and son of the principal stakeholder of Imperial Pacific, which owns Best Sunshine, is "always tweaking the look" of the Garapan facility and that it would turn out spectacular.

"It's unbelievable. So we are set right now, it's done," Brown said, noting that

**See CASINO on Page 4**

## Rose Taimanao Jones is NMI's Instructor of the Year

By DAISY DEMAPAN  
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REPORTER

Rosa Taimanao Jones, alongside CNMI Teacher of the Year Dr. Dora Miura, was named last week as the CNMI Public School System's Instructor of the Year. Jones has been with the Public School System as a Praxis-certified Chamorro language and heritage studies instructor since 2004.

Jones, who believes that teaching is a calling, comes from a family of educators.

"It is a rewarding profession that calls for commitment, inspiration, patience, understanding, love, discipline, flexibility, creativity, and accountability. A teacher must have the passion to teach in order to be the driving force of student learning. These are all the exemplary traits of exhibiting the skills and knowledge of a curriculum that helped me to decide to enter the teaching profession about 11 years ago."

Her philosophy in teaching is much like her philosophy for life. "Learning should be a meaningful experience for all students...no matter what cultural background, ability, family,

**See ROSE on Page 4**



Rosa Taimanao Jones, center, a Chamorro Language and Heritage Studies teacher, was named last week as the CNMI Public School System's Instructor of the Year. Jones has been an instructor since 2004. On Nov. 2, PSS held a celebratory luncheon at the Pacific Islands Club. From left, Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero, Rose Taimanao Jones and Chacha Oceanview Middle School principal Vince Dela Cruz

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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The Saipan Young Professionals Committee celebrates Halloween at Best Sunshine Live Bar.

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"By the Sea" is a personal film for Angelina Jolie, inspired by the grief of losing her mother.

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# Local

## Rotaract Club of Saipan inducts five more members

Under the sponsorship of the Rotary Club of Saipan, the Rotaract Club of Saipan inducted five more members in support of service above self. From left president Del Mendiola, secretary Suzanne Jetnil, member Shelane Borja, Vinni Orsini, Querlaine Blas, Hillary Agulto and Genelin Camacho.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By DAISY DEMAPAN  
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REPORTER

Under the sponsorship of the Rotary Club of Saipan, the Rotaract Club of Saipan inducted five more members during a ceremony held at Kanoa Resort last Nov. 6.

The new members are Suzanne Jetnil, Hillary Agulto, Genelin Camacho, Querlaine Blas, and Vinni Orsini.

The club is led by RAC 2015-2016 officers: president Del Mendiola, vice president Hillary Agulto, secretary Suzanne Jetnil, and treasurer Genelin Camacho.

According to Mendiola, "this induction ceremony is a long time coming. We had to postpone our induction for many reasons, including the typhoon. Our continuing goal is to recruit more members but it's our biggest struggle because it is very hard to find people who are willing to commit to the mission of Rotary, which is service above self. This year our motto is 'Be a gift to the world' and we're going to carry this out through service activities. This will be

our second year and none of this would've been possible without the support of the Rotaract Club of Guam, Rotary Club of Saipan, our families and our current and active members."

Rotary members in attendance were director of new generations Sapuro Rayphand, Ben Babauta, and Wendell Posadas.

Rotaract stands for Rotary in action and originally began as a Rotary International youth program in 1968 in Charlotte, North Carolina. It has grown into a major Rotary-sponsored organization of over 9,539 clubs spread around the world and 219,397 members. It is a service, leadership, and community service organization for young men and women between the ages 18 to 30. Rotaract focuses on the development of young adults as leaders in their communities and workplaces. While Rotary clubs serve as sponsors, Rotaract clubs decide how to organize and run their club and what projects and activities to carry out.

For more information on Rotaract or if you'd like to become a member, contact Jetnil at [rotaractofsaipan@gmail.com](mailto:rotaractofsaipan@gmail.com).

## Blanco: Inos recovering from surgery

By DENNIS B. CHAN  
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos is recovering from a heart procedure he underwent in the U.S. mainland last Friday to follow up a similar operation last November 2014 in the Philippines.

The governor's spokesman, Ivan Blanco, is asking for the community's thoughts and prayers for the governor's recovery.

"Today, Gov. Inos underwent an endoscopic medical procedure as a follow up to his past surgery in the Philippines last year. He had delayed this procedure because of Typhoon Soudebor. We ask the community to join together in prayer for a successful procedure and for a speedy recovery. We will provide updates to the public soonest they become available," Blanco said

in a statement Friday.

When pressed yesterday, Blanco said more updates should be available today. He thanked the community for its prayers.

Inos has diabetes and undergoes dialysis treatment at the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. thrice a week.

Last January, Inos was confined to the hospital due to symptoms of pneumonia.

Inos' health was a talking point during the 2014 general elections and subsequent runoff, with his opponents saying the governor is not being totally upfront about his health condition.

Shortly after retuning from a routine checkup in the Philippines in early November last year, Inos disclosed that his medical leave to Manila was for a follow up to a bypass heart surgery he had in 2006.

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# Brown: Best Sunshine on notice with smoking concerns

By DENNIS B. CHAN  
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REPORTER

The chief executive officer of Saipan's casino said they are planning to implement "air curtain walls" at each of their gaming facility to address concerns from the public on the second-hand smoke that exudes from their facility.

Mark Brown, chief executive officer of Best Sunshine International, Ltd, said they are working with Duty Free Saipan on the issue.

"We know it's an issue, we are not [turning] a blind eye to

it. We are looking at an air curtain wall. That costs roughly a hundred thousand U.S. [dollars]," Brown said.

He said the curtain wall will keep the smoke out from the T Galleria mall and they are now working on how to keep smoke from entering the Hard Rock Café, which is a floor above the casino.

"I've worked in many casinos in my career, this is not a smoking casino to me," Brown said. "I don't know how it is to you. But the DFS employees are making comments and then some of the Hard Rock [employees] will say

something. That's why, even though we are kind of okay, we are still looking into definitely fixing it over here, trying to figure out...some kind of curtain wall—but because of the stairs going up it's a little bit more difficult.

"But we are definitely on notice about it, and we are in meetings, figuring out exactly how to make everyone happy," Brown added.

Two weeks ago, public health officials testified before the Senate on their concerns over an amendment to the casino law that would have

exempted the casino from having its facility enclosed. Public law allows for smoking in gaming facilities provided that the facility is enclosed.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. public health planner Kaitlyn Neises said that, although the DFS complex underwent significant renovations in order to house BSI

operations, the casino gaming floor remains open to the rest of the structure. Neither the entrance from the Hard Rock Café on the south side, nor the north entrance from neighboring duty free shopping area are

separated by continuous floor to ceiling walls, leaving the gaming floor and the smoke generated by its patrons unobstructed from the rest of the complex.

"Consequently, smoke in the casino floor infiltrates other areas of the DFS complex such as the restaurant and shopping mall where smoking is expressly prohibited by statute," she said. "While exemption from the smoking law already exists for the gaming floor of casinos, the law requires that these gaming floors be enclosed. As a result, Best Sunshine International is in direct violation of Public Law 16-46 and its casino license" agreement, which prohibits it from violating Commonwealth law.

Acting governor Ralph DLG Torres said last week that he "agreed with the concerns regarding the smoking bill," urging Duty Free Saipan and their counterparts work on an "enclosure" within the T Galleria.

"...So I just hope the private entities can settle their differences within the building itself," he said. "But sure, it's safety first."

Two weeks ago—through an amendment offered by Sen. Sixto Igisomar (R-Saipan)—the Senate deleted "Section 17" of House Bill 19-95, HDI, HSI, which would have amended Commonwealth Code to essentially allow the non-enclosure of smoking areas in gaming establishments.

## DLNR, NPS discuss commercial usage of Outer Cove's fast land

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON  
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REPORTER

Representatives of the National Park Service recently visited Saipan to discuss with the government turning over some land near the Outer Cove Marina that may be used for future developments.

In an interview last Thursday, Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Richard Seman said the department met with NPS.

"We were discussing what the possibilities are of conveying some of the fast land to DLNR so that developers, interested parties coming in to take over Outer Cove Marina might be able to provide development in that area," Seman said.

Following the impending closure of the Outer Cove Marina after one of its gangway collapsed last July, DLNR is looking at issuing a request

for proposal for private companies to develop the marina.

The fast land—the land that is above water surrounding the Outer Cove Marina—is under the jurisdiction of NPS while the submerged land is under DLNR.

Seman said this land could be used for the marina to be safer and have better turning and parking space.

"There are possibilities but it is something that must be coordinated or discussed with the concessionaire branch of the National Parks," Seman said.

The branch deals with commercial activities inside national parks.

Seman said they may immediately do an RFP for the submerged land even before the fast land will be turned over.

"That can happen while we're working on the fast land," Seman said.

He added that they may issue separate RFPs for submerged land and fast land or both.

## NMC wrapping up FEMA documentation

By DAISY DEMAPAN  
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College is wrapping up this week the paperwork required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to support its application for federal disaster assistance.

According to David Attao, NMC Dean of Administration and Resource Development, "we are practicing due diligence and making sure we follow all procedures and policies as well as the law to ensure that rebuilding activities occur in the most efficient and effective way that meets the needs of our students, stakeholders, and the college as a whole."

Part of this process, he said, required damage assessment work, collection of evidence including photographs, seeking input from field experts for cost estimates, and other detailed documentation.

The college is moving forward with the procurement process to begin major renovations and repairs to buildings, with

many of the minor repairs having been completed.

In September, the House of Representatives re-appropriated \$1 million for local scholarships to repair NMC's damaged buildings.

NMC sustained considerable damage from Typhoon Soudebor as it tore through the NMC campus, ripping roofs off buildings including the college's gymnasium, destroying computer and other electrical equipment, flooding classrooms, and toppling trees. The storm damaged 19 of 25 buildings and many were rendered unusable. Some employees have had to be relocated to facilities off campus because their offices were completely destroyed. The college then sustained additional damage from Tropical Storm Champi.

According to Frankie Elipitico, NMC director of external affairs, the college is grateful for the much needed funding for repairs that will be underway in the next few weeks.



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# China media officials meet with casino, MVA brass

By DENNIS B. CHAN  
dennis\_chan@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A dozen reporters, editors, and news directors from major outlets in mainland China met with casino and tourism officials on Friday on the *Grand Mariana*, a yacht owned by Best Sunshine International, Ltd., to discuss the stories that Saipan has to offer.

"The purpose here is to promote Saipan," said Best Sunshine CEO Mark Brown. "We are trying to get as much information out there as we possibly can, as far as what we are doing here—our partnership with the Saipan people, the government, [and] trying to grow the economy."

Some of these media officials included China News Agency Economic Review deputy general manager Luo Guojun; *People's Daily* Overseas Edition deputy editor-in-chief Yang Haiqi; Central China Broadcasting Economic Station senior editor Wu Chunmei; Beijing TV News Center deputy director in censorship Yin Lei; Beijing Youth editor-in-chief Wang Jinguang; Ten Cent Net senior reporter Wang Yi; Global Times Marketing GM Lisa Li; *Global Times* reporter Xia Zhongwei; Zhejiang Travel TV Station senior consultant Li Yafeng; and *China Business Review* senior reporter Liu Ke.

After the meeting with the

top-rank media officials, Perry Tenorio, Marianas Visitors Authority managing director, said it was important "to share our thoughts" about the importance of the China market.

"The intention obviously with Best Sunshine is to develop more stories about the CNMI, right? And we took the opportunity to sit down with them and have a discussion and have maybe more information on the tourism component of their visit," he said.

According to Brown, Best Sunshine took the media officials on a tour of the island's golf courses last week, and shared the island's history and entertainment it has to offer,

among others.

On Friday, they toured the *Grand Mariana*, a luxury yacht captained by Jay Kimmel. Kimmel said the yacht goes as fast 15 knots. It holds cabins and a split-level master suite, with a jacuzzi and a sun deck on its uppermost level, among other luxury features.

## The economic sell

"We want them to go back and talk and let everyone know how beautiful Saipan is—the island, what's there to do here, what's going on—not about this," Brown said, pointing to a gaming table where a sit-down interview with reporters was held on Friday.

"It's more about what are we

really doing. We are building hotels, we are building nightclubs, we are building restaurants. Hopefully, as we do that ourselves, other companies will also build more hotel rooms, more restaurants."

"...As our temporary casino closes and [the Garapan hotel] opens and more and more people start coming—our employees now go from 500 to 3,000, they need places to eat—so even the current business owners will be probably be opening up more restaurants, different restaurants, local restaurants. A bar person who is very successful with one might open another one. That's what happens with the growth of the economy," he said.

Brown said that during their Friday meeting, many of the media officials were asking, "What's the story? What's the story?"

One Chinese media official told reporters that Saipan should "sell love" and human interest stories about the local people and the ecosystem.

"Is the story about Mark Brown?" Brown told reporters. "Is the story about Imperial Pa-

cific? Is the story about Saipan itself, what's going to happen now as far as with the change in the economy?"

Brown said BSI is trying to tell about their next building phase in Garapan, noting that they did not heavily advertise the temporary casino in T Galleria. BSI plans to build a \$500-million casino resort in Garapan called the *Grand Mariana*.

He added that they would like to do as much media tours as they can, with journalists from China, Korea, Japan, or whoever would like to come.

"We are getting our name out," he said, noting that in Macau they have advertisements on taxicabs and the Zhuhai border.

"The message right now is more really about recruitment... and integrated resort and hotels and restaurants and shopping, and showing the water. [One of] our advertisement is a women going underwater scuba diving with fish going by.

"It's all about the island. That's all we keep focusing on. All the things to see and enjoy on the island," Brown said.



Chinese media journalists pose for a photo with casino and tourism officials on the *Grand Mariana* yacht.

DENNIS B. CHAN

## GOVENDO

From Page 1

investigators on Thursday night to a trash bin where he hid the stolen gun.

Govendo was off-island when the incident happened. As of Friday, he was still in Palau for a conference, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

The judge's wife discovered the burglary when she returned home from running errands Thursday at 1pm, police said.

A police officer was dispatched to the Govendo residence on Thursday at 1:04pm, in response to a report of burglary and theft.

Mrs. Govendo told the officer that she left the house at 11am that day to do some errands. When she returned at 1pm, she discovered that the house had been burglarized and her husband's government-issued gun and ammunition had been stolen from their bedroom.

Police detectives fanned out to canvas the area around the judge's house that same day, Thursday, at 1:20pm.

Police detective Rhonda John later procured from a store a surveillance footage showing the intersection leading to the judge's residence.

In that footage, a man wearing dark pants and dark shirt was seen walking into the intersection leading to Govendo's house on that day at 11:42pm. At 12:44pm, the video showed the same individual walking out of the intersection from Govendo's residence.

Detectives then went house to house in the area to ask neighbors to identify the individual in the footage video. A man later identified the person in the video as Kaipat. The tipster, who requested anonymity, disclosed that Kaipat lives in the Dandan area.

Detectives went to Kaipat's apartment, where they met the suspect's 16-year-old brother,

who told them to check their mother at Seventh Day Adventist Church in Gualo Rai and his brother Kaipat at Herman's Bakery where he works.

One detective proceeded to Seventh Day Adventist Church, while three other detectives went to Herman's Bakery.

Detectives learned that Kaipat was late for work that day as he was supposed to come in at 12pm, but his time card showed 1:19pm.

Kaipat also stated that he did not bring any backpack, but a surveillance footage taken from another store showed that he had a backpack when he left their house at 12:58pm.

The mother arrived home at 6:06pm and agreed to have the investigators search their apartment unit.

One detective saw on the table a bullet that appeared to be police-issued ammunition.

Police detective Catherine B. Pangelinan said she arrived

at Herman's Bakery at 6:12pm where he met with Kaipat and informed him of his constitutional rights.

Pangelinan said Kaipat identified himself on the video footage taken from a store leading to Govendo's house. Kaipat then led the investigators to the location of the intersection and to the judge's house, where he admitted he came from.

Kaipat showed detectives the backside of Govendo's house and the damaged sliding window, where the point of entry was during the robbery.

Kaipat told investigators that he knew Govendo owned the house.

At 7:49pm, Kaipat led detectives into the kitchen of Herman's Bakery where he hid the stolen gun in a trash bin. The detectives recovered Govendo's police-issued 9mm pistol.

Police arrested Kaipat several times in the past for various violent crimes.

everybody that has helped us get to this point. All the local business people that have helped us get to this point. It's really just a thank you very much."

Brown hopes to have all their contract workers arrive soon as this would allow them to open up all their gaming tables.

"I think we'll have a total of about 250 [workers]," he said, noting they'd be dealers, supervisors, and surveillance, among others. "Our plan is to have every game open," he said.

## ROSE

From Page 1

and economic status. ...I also encourage them to respect, accept and be open-minded to all traditions, customs, and beliefs of our diverse community, prepare them for global challenges, and master skills of becoming independent life-long learners," she said.

In her 11 years of teaching, she has been involved in school and accreditation leadership, interscholastic sports coaching and is well known for her guidance in Chamorro language competitions at the Gregorio T. Elementary School.

Jones currently serves as an instructor at Chacha Oceanview Middle School, spearheading many activities including Cultural Heritage Month, My WAVE, and continues to coach the middle school level Academic Challenge Bowl competition and the University of Guam CHAMORU poetry and oratory competitions.

Her passionate involvement in building and preserving the Chamorro language is evident in her capacity as the CCLHS learning community representative that aids in the development of lessons for grades K-12.

"As teachers, we must always be open and flexible for professional growth, be willing to make changes and learn how to use constructive criticism to better our teaching," she said. "A teacher's role is not limited to the classroom and to the school alone but also to the community."

Outside the classroom, Jones is active in the Pacific Islands Bilingual Bi-Cultural Association or PIBBA, the March Against Cancer, the 2015 Agricultural and Natural Resources Month Competition, community outreach events such as food and

toy drives to Karidat as well as her passion for poetry, singing, cooking, and spending quality time with family and friends.

Jones said that much of who we are is a reflection and the dedication brought into the classroom.

"Respect is the golden rule in my classroom and all students are aware and understand that expectation. I hope that everyone will come together and share the responsibility to help in the improvement of education and the promotion of language and culture. With the support of our education system, school, teachers and staff, our community, the students and parents, we will instill greatness in the lives of each student," she said.

Jones shared a message that her former GTC principal gave, which she continues to live by. "No matter our differences, no matter the challenges we face each day, at the end of the day, we are here for our students and that is all that matters!"

To her fellow teachers, she said: "Thank you for all that you do for our students. Continue to be amazing at what you do. Even at your hardest times, remember you are appreciated and a valuable asset to your school and the system."

To her students, "I am truly blessed to be a part of your lives. Remember that your education is the one thing no one can take away from you. Always reach for the stars and make your mark in the world."

This year's selection process for Teacher of the Year and Instructor of the Year started with individual schools coming up with their respective nominees. The principals then determined eligible candidates from a specific criterion and the top teachers were then chosen system-wide, with classroom observations and an interview to determine the top honoree.

## CASINO

From Page 1

U.S. architect Paul Steelman has settled on his "masterpiece."

"He's tweaking the door, he's tweaking this...Mr. Ji is such a perfectionist and Paul Steelman is more of a perfectionist. He travels the world and he builds buildings all over the world, so he is trying to build something that...also fits into the island at the same time"—something re-

lated to the island culture.

"...We want to wow everybody," Brown said. "It's something you have never seen before on this island. That's what we are building."

## Grand opening

When asked, Brown confirmed Nov. 27 as the official grand opening of their temporary casino at T Galleria.

Brown said he had been weighing the pros and cons about having it on "Black Fri-

day," the day after Thanksgiving, but has heard that people want to go out after shopping during Black Friday sales.

Unlike their "soft" opening, he wants the "official government grand opening" where they will have acting governor Ralph DLG Torres, the Commonwealth Casino Commission, and the CNMI Legislature.

"We are going to invite the entire government," Brown said. "All the government and

## December eyed for smart meters to go live on Rota

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON  
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is targeting December for

their "smart" prepaid meters to begin operating on Rota.

According to chief financial officer Matthew Yaquinto, they are looking at Dec. 1, 2015, for

the meters to go online.

"We wanted to go online on Dec. 1, so we gave PayGo until [Nov.] 16<sup>th</sup> to get everything set up so we can upload it in

the system and we'll have two weeks to test the meters that are out there," Yaquinto said in Thursday's board meeting.

PayGo is the service that will

monitor the usage and consumption of CUC's customers.

"We need that to interface with the meters and interface with our system," Yaquinto said.

He said the system will be easier for the customers than to

"buy the tokens with the little numbers on them."

"It allows us to monitor the system remotely and allows the customer to do more things. From their standpoint, they'll know how much they have in the meter, how much they've consumed during the night," Yaquinto said.

The smart meters are easy to install and the customers don't have to pay for it. Yaquinto said CUC has about a thousand of the meters but is not sure how many are on service.

"We're going to order more. We have 12,000 customers, so I'd like to get almost as many people on [the meters] as possible."

Last September, 300 meters were sent to Rota and another 300 to Tinian. For Saipan, Yaquinto said there are prepaid meters but not smart meters.

## Co-op to sign agreement with DLNR soon

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON  
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REPORTER

The CNMI Farmers Cooperative will be signing an agreement with the Department of Lands and Natural Resources soon regarding their use and management of the government-owned Garapan Public Market building.

"The plan is to sign the agreement this week," said co-op's pro tem president Crispin Deleon Guerrero in an interview.

Guerrero currently heads the co-op following the resignation of Maria Frica Pangelinan as its president and manager.

In a meeting last Thursday, agreement and membership issues were discussed by co-op shareholders together with representatives from the government, including acting governor Ralph DLG Torres and DLNR Secretary Richard Seman.

Almost two weeks ago, Seman issued a letter to Pangelinan notifying the co-op, which started their operations August 2014, that they should "cease and desist" using the public market building as the two parties don't have an agreement in place.

The letter said the co-op couldn't resume operations until "such an agreement is in place."

Currently the co-op is not operating since they don't have produce to fill the market's shelves following the devastation of Typhoon Soudelor in August and Typhoon Champi in October.

"According to the Attorney General's Office, we really need to place a signed agreement between both parties. I'm hoping that providing a draft copy, you'll be able to review it and work out the area," Seman told the farmers in the meeting.

"The current board members will just have to face it and make that decision. They have to meet on their own and de-

cide," said Pangelinan, who still attended the meeting and will still be assisting the co-op as a type of adviser.

Pangelinan said earlier that the co-op wasn't able to sign the agreement because of a required \$1 million liability insurance, which she said was "too stringent for the market."

Guerrero said they will look into a law that says that the maximum insurance liability required is only \$50,000. He also assured farmers that the board will review the agreement be-

fore they sign it.

Because only about 12 out of the 74 co-op shareholders attended the meeting, the co-op wasn't able to elect new board members.

Co-op secretary Sid Cabrera said they are looking at January to hold another general membership meeting to elect board members as not all of its current seven members is active. He added that it would be impossible for the farmers to meet now as it is already nearing the holiday season.

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### Survivors & caregivers support meeting on Nov. 12

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting on Thursday, Nov. 12, 2015, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Chamolinian Room. To RSVP or for more information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@cca-marianas.org. (CCA)

#### Military training at FDM, Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. military will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- Nov. 9 from 8am to 10pm
- Nov. 10 from 10:30am to 4:30pm

Training will also be conducted at Warning Area 517 during the following dates and times:

- Nov. 9 from 8am to 10pm
- Nov. 10 from noon to 8pm

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and

marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

W-517 is an irregular polygon comprising 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. (PR)



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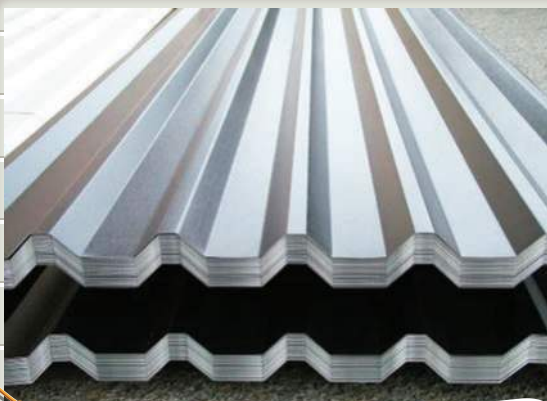
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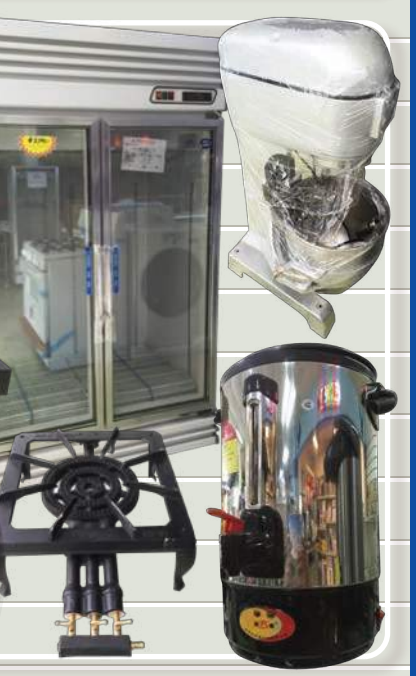
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# Ex-CBP office's sentencing set for tomorrow

Former U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer Bob Hajime Deleon Guerrero Yamagishi will be taken to federal court tomorrow to be sentenced after being pleading guilty to two counts of wire fraud.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona set the sentencing at 10:30am.

Under the plea agreement entered by Yamagishi and the U.S. government, the sentencing

guidelines range is zero to six months imprisonment.

The U.S. government and defense attorney Janet H. King earlier requested to continue the sentencing for Nov. 30, 2015, citing that the initial presentence report was submitted less than 35 days before the scheduled sentencing date of Oct. 30, 2015.

Manglona granted the request to delay, but set the sentencing for tomorrow.

Manglona said Yamagishi has been in custody since Oct. 7, 2015, when his pretrial release was revoked.

The judge said it does not serve the ends of justice to delay unnecessarily the sentencing of a convicted person who is accumulating jail time when there is

a realistic possibility that he will not be sentenced to any period of incarceration.

Yamagishi pleaded guilty to two counts of fraud by wire af-

ter making illegal cash advance transaction on a travel charge card between July 4 and Aug. 7, 2014. As then, CBP officer, he made illegal cash advance trans-

actions 28 times in July 2014 and nine times in August 2014, for a total amount of \$6,227.53, according to the indictment. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

## Teregeyo adds 2 doctors to her suit for left knee, leg infections

Former representative Ana S. Teregeyo has added two doctors to her lawsuit that accuses the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. of negligence that resulted in her left knee and leg becoming infected, necessitating five more surgeries and an artificial knee replacement.

Teregeyo's original lawsuit named CHCC, chief executive officer Esther L. Muna, and some medical staff officers as defendants. In her amended complaint, the additional defendants are Dr. Greg Kotheimer and Dr. Sherleen Osmand.

Teregeyo said Kotheimer is the acting chief executive officer for CHCC, while Osmand is the acting director of Medical Affairs for CHCC.

Teregeyo said CHCC, by way of Kotheimer, Osmand, and other officers, "failed to act in a manner set forth in the CHCC hospital bylaws, thus denying her orthopedic surgeon doctor the ability to care for her left knee and leg during her post-operative care recovery."

In a complaint she filed in Superior Court without a lawyer, Teregeyo is demanding an unspecified amount of damages for pain and suffering, mental anguish, and expenses.

Teregeyo said she was admitted to the Commonwealth Health Center on Nov. 2, 2013, because of a shattered tibia

bone. She was treated by Dr. Grant Walker, a board-certified orthopedic surgeon licensed by the CNMI to practice medicine.

Teregeyo was released on Nov. 27, 2013, and was told to follow up in the hospital's orthopedic clinic.

She said she saw Ben Hochhalter, an orthopedic physician assistant, during her follow up appointment at the orthopedic clinic on Dec. 19, 2013.

Teregeyo claims that Hochhalter was unsupervised by an orthopedic surgeon when he saw her in subsequent visits. She said Hochhalter took out the post-operative sutures too early, resulting in the gap in the incision to go untreated. Hochhalter also allegedly failed to take an x-ray of her leg for three months while she was complaining that her leg was starting to angulate as an infection continued eating away at the bone below that included her left knee.

Teregeyo said the infection of her knee necessitated six surgeries, including a full artificial replacement of her knee. She was confined to a wheelchair for 18 months.

Teregeyo said she had to be treated in the U.S. mainland for 10 months, while she received five additional surgeries at the University Medical Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

### PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

We would like to inform the general public, that Walter Yu (Manager) is no longer connected with Green Leisure, LLC dba: Hotel Galleria effective November 6, 2015.

Any transaction with him will no longer be honored by our company. For further information, please call us at (670) 233-1333. Thank you.

/s/ Qitong Liu  
President

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Frank M. Rabauliman  
Administrator

Frances A. Castro  
Director, DCRM

### NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE DCRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a DCRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 12, 2015, 10:00 AM** at the DCRM 3rd Floor Conference Room in Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

### AGENDA

- I. **PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
  - a) Call to Order
  - b) Roll Call
  - c) Adoption of October 15, 2015 Agency Meeting Minutes
  - d) Adoption of Agenda
- II. **PERMIT APPLICATION**
  1. Saipan Comfort Homes (SMS-2015-X-066)
    - a. Discussion by DCRM Agency Officials and Director
    - b. Permit Application Determination
- III. **MISCELLANEOUS**
- IV. **ADJOURNMENT**

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items.

(NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/

**FRANCES A. CASTRO**  
DCRM Director

# DLNR to have another meeting on Outer Cove Marina

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON  
frauline\_villanueva@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources will be meeting with tenants and other concerned members of the public regarding the use of the Outer Cove Marina. The meeting will be held tomorrow evening at the DLNR-DFW Smiling Cove parking lot.

According to DLNR Secretary Richard Seman, the Outer Cove will no longer be used for loading and unloading; however, it could still be used for the parking the boats.

"If they want to stay there just for parking their boats, that is fine with DLNR provided that they sign a waiver that they fully understand the conditions

and...the circumstances that may occur and that they are fully responsible for what is going to happen to them if it happens," Seman said.

He added that every staff of the companies or operators that may use the marina must sign the waiver.

Seman said they continue to look at the Smiling Cove Marina as a possible area where operators can load and unload passengers. He said they will discuss this again at the next meeting.

Earlier in the first meeting, the Division of Fish and Wildlife, which operates the Smiling Cove, said they needed information including the schedule of those who want to use the marina, which was originally

intended for recreational boats and not for commercial use.

Seman said a \$1 nominal fee might be required for each pas-

senger who will use the Smiling Cove for maintenance.

He also added that not all boats may be able to use the

Smiling Cove, especially the larger vessels that require deeper drafts.

Seman said they are looking

at seeking the help of the Commonwealth Ports Authority as well as utilizing the south sea-plane ramp as alternatives.

## Man wants court to review his termination from CUC

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Zaji O. Zajradhara has asked the Superior Court to review his termination from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s last year based on allegations that he tried to give an off-duty female police officer marijuana while using a CUC vehicle.

In a complaint he filed without a lawyer, Zajradhara asked the court to reverse CUC's decision to terminate him and to direct CUC to reinstate him and

give him back pay.

Zajradhara claims CUC terminated him from his job in retaliation for complaining that CUC's management was violating the law.

He alleged that, on Oct. 8, 2014, CUC suspended him without pay and issued a proposed corrective action stating it was going to terminate his employment. He said it was alleged that while on company time, he attempted to give marijuana to an off-duty police officer. He was officially terminated on

Oct. 24, 2014.

Zajradhara appealed to CUC's Personnel Committee. A hearing was held in June 2015. On Oct. 9, 2015, CUC's Personnel Committee issued a decision affirming Zajradhara's termination.

Zajradhara said that CUC's decision was arbitrary, an abuse of discretion, not in accordance with law, and was contrary to his constitutional rights and privileges.

He said his due process rights were violated because the basis of his termination was different from what was stated in the corrective action.

Zajradhara said CUC's Personnel Committee found the officer not credible, and credited his statements that he stopped by the Laundromat just to give the officer his phone number.

However, he said, the Personnel Committee affirmed the final corrective plan on the basis that he, during work time and using CUC's vehicle, stopped by the Laundromat for social reasons.

Zajradhara said that spending minutes of his work time for social reasons does not deserve a disciplinary sanction so severe as termination.

A copy of CUC Personnel Committee's order showed that Zajradhara had been employed by CUC since May 2013 and that over the course of the next 13 months, he was reprimanded by CUC on numerous occasions for various instances of misconduct.

Among the misconducts cited were smoking inside the CUC power plant in violation of policy; indirectly using a CUC printer to print a 70-page marijuana catalog; and testing positive for use of illegal substance.

The Personnel Committee ruled that in light of Zajradhara's conduct, both prior to and on Sept. 30, 2014, then-CUC executive director Alan Fletcher was justified in terminating Zajradhara's employment.

Zajradhara also filed a lawsuit against CUC and Fletcher and several others in federal court for his termination.

## Fifth free fax option for Soudelor survivors

The CNMI is providing a new, fifth free faxing location at the Aging Center in Garapan for Typhoon Soudelor survivors on Saipan who need to get documents to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

The updated list currently stands at five and includes the following locations:

■ Saipan Mayor's Office, Beach Road, Chalan Laulau (7:30am-4:30pm weekdays)

■ IT&E, TSL Plaza, Beach Road, Garapan (8am-4:30pm weekdays)

■ IT&E Customer Service, Middle Road, Chalan Laulau (8am-4:30pm weekdays)

■ Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Beach Road, Susupe (10am-6pm Tues-Fri; 9am-4pm Saturdays)

■ Aging Center, Sugar King Road, Garapan (7:30am-4:30pm weekdays)

FEMA applicants faxing documents will be doing so to a toll-free number, and these locations will not charge them anything to use their fax machines. (FEMA)

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ATTORNEY FOR Petitioner

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of the Estate of AUGUSTA S. RABAILIMAN, Deceased. ] CIVIL ACTION ] NO. 15-0160

#### NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation has filed a Petition for Letters of Administration upon the Estate of Augusta S. Rabailiman, deceased; and that the said Petition will be heard by the Court on December 15, 2015, at the hour of 1:30 p.m. of the said day.

Notice is also given to all heirs of and persons having claims against the Estate of Augusta S. Rabailiman, deceased, and to all persons claiming an interest in the said Estate, that they shall file such claims with the Clerk of this Court within sixty (60) days from the first publication of this Notice. Copies of such claims should be provided to Michael A. White, Esq., The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, P.O. Box 5222 CHRB, Saipan, MP 96950, Attorney for Petitioner. All claims not so filed shall be forever barred.

Dated: November 2, 2015.

/s/  
Clerk of Court

Edward C. Ariola  
Attorney-at-Law  
Sablan Bldg., Suite 1-F  
San Jose, Saipan  
P.O. Box 501788  
Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 233-5507  
Fax: (670) 233-5509

Attorney for Petitioner

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF DIANA GUERRERO VILLAGOMEZ, Deceased.

CIVIL ACTION

NO. 15-0170

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND CLAIMANTS OF HEARING

Date: 12/15/15  
Time: 1:30 PM  
Judge: The Hon. David A. Wiseman


To: All creditors, claimants, Francisco Deleon Guerrero Cabrera, Nerine Deleon Guerrero Villagomez, and Nicollete Deleon Guerrero Villagomez

NOTICE is hereby given that a petition for letters of administration seeking appointment of Joaquin P. Villagomez, as Administrator of the Estate of Diana Guerrero Villagomez (decedent), was filed in the above-entitled Court. A hearing has been set for the above-entitled matter and will be held in Courtroom 223A of the Commonwealth Superior Court, located at the House of Justice - Guma Hustisia-Imwal Aweewe, Susupe, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, at 1:30pm on 12/15/2015.


All persons who having any objection to the petition, or having a claim against the estate or against the deceased, should file their claim with the Clerk of Court of the Commonwealth Superior Court within sixty (60) days after the first publication.

Dated this 30th day of October, 2015.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court



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## SBA tops \$20 million in disaster assistance loans

**SACRAMENTO, Calif.**—Director Jane Sawyer of the U.S. Small Business Administration's Hawaii District office announced Friday that SBA has approved \$20.3 million in disaster loans: \$9.2 million to help businesses and private, nonprofit organizations and

\$11.1 million to help residents rebuild and recover from Typhoon Soudelor.

In addition, "SBA's Disaster Loan Outreach Center in Susupe will be closed on Wednesday, Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day. The center will re-open Thursday, November

12," Sawyer said.

Small, nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size may qualify for an EIDL of up to \$2 million to help meet financial obligations and operating expenses

which could have been met had the disaster not occurred. These loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that can't be paid because of the disaster's impact.

The interest rate is 4 percent for businesses and 2.625 percent for private nonprofit organizations with terms up to 30 years. The deadline to submit an EIDL

application is May 5, 2016.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Disaster loan information and application forms are also available from SBA's Customer Service Center by calling (800) 659-2955 or emailing [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). Individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing may call (800) 877-8339.

For more disaster assistance information, or to download applications, visit <http://www.sba.gov/disaster>. Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155. **(SBA)**

## SBA still processing loan applications

The U.S. Small Business Administration is still processing loan applications and is open to the public at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. According to public information officer William Koontz, there are 50 home and 23 business applications still being processed.

The deadline for a small business to apply for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan, which is to borrow working capital funds to keep a business running until it returns to normal, is May 5, 2016, he says.

"Although the deadline to apply for property damage loans has expired," he said, "small businesses and most private nonprofit organizations of any size may continue to apply for an Economic Injury Disaster Loan to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business or nonprofit organization suffered any property damage."

Koontz added that "some homeowners, renters, and business owners have withdrawn

their application, or put it on hold. For example, if they had not filed their federal income taxes for the last few years, or if they did not have all the documents they need to provide so that SBA has enough information to make a credit decision..."

There are many other reasons for applicants to withdraw but he said that when applicants decide to withdraw, "SBA offers applicants six months to accomplish whatever they individually need to do, then return to SBA, provide the information needed to proceed, and request reconsideration of

their loan application."

So far, SBA has received 1,313 home and business applications, 421 have been withdrawn, 404 were denied, 95 were referred back to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, 73 original applications are still being processed and 410 have so far

been approved.

The latest statistics illustrate that 95 of the applicants SBA could not approve were referred back to FEMA to be considered under FEMA's Other Needs Assistance program.

For those still in need of assistance, SBA customer service representatives are continuing

to provide personalized assistance at SBA's Disaster Loan Outreach Center in Susupe and are available to answer questions, close approved loans and help complete EIDL applications. No appointment is necessary and assistance is available from Monday to Friday, 9am to 6pm. **(Daisy Demapan)**

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# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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## EDITORIAL

### Myanmar gets ready to vote

On Sunday, Myanmar will hold its first democratic national election in 25 years—a historic moment for a country that has transformed itself from a military dictatorship, isolated from the West, to a quasi-civilian government embraced by the Obama administration for its progress toward democracy. Along the way, the government wrote a new constitution, freed more than 1,000 political prisoners and released opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, the Nobel Peace Prize laureate, from years of house arrest. In a much smaller by election in 2012, she won a seat in parliament.

But this is not a truly free and fair vote. Of the 664 seats in parliament, a quarter are reserved for military officials. The constitution also states that no president may have a spouse or children who are foreign citizens, a provision widely considered to be aimed at preventing Suu Kyi from becoming president. She is the widow of a British national and has two sons with foreign passports. If her party were to win a majority, she could not be chosen as president. (The president is selected by the parliament.)

While there have been plenty of campaign rallies, candidates are not allowed to criticize the military on state-run media. Two activists were arrested for posting satirical material online. The government's election commission has canceled balloting in more than 400 villages without clearly explaining its reasons, according to the Carter Center, which has been monitoring the campaign.

And the government has rescinded the right to vote of thousands of ethnic minorities. Most of the disqualified were Rohingya Muslims, who have long faced persecution. An ultranationalist, anti-Muslim movement in this majority Buddhist country has only gained more attention as the election nears.

The election will not be free, fair and inclusive; that's a given. But the U.S. and the numerous outside observers, including dozens from the Carter Center, should do what they can to ensure that irregularities are minimized, that democracy is maximized and that the voting is secure and peaceful.

Once the election is over, the U.S. should reiterate that, in exchange for continuing diplomatic relations, it is imperative that government officials reform the constitution. The military should neither have a right to a quarter of the seats in parliament nor the de facto veto of constitutional amendments that goes with it. Amendments require more than a 75 percent vote of the parliament. That's not democracy, and the U.S. should not play along with the pretense that it is.

And it's past time for the National League for Democracy and its leader, Suu Kyi, to take a stand against Myanmar's relentless oppression of the country's Rohingya population. Protecting human rights should be at the heart of their political concerns.

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## InstantCheckmate

The title is the name of a service in the Internet that offers consumer access to data they gather from public sources. I never had any reason to use their service so I stayed away from them in spite of the numerous ads I get in my email to find out what the record has on me that is accessible to many who avail of their services, hinting that I might want to keep the record straight if there was something amiss.

Being still a slow day on island after Soudelor three months after its fury, I decided to check my record. I was amazed by the speed *InstantCheckmate* got to my file and before I knew it, it appeared like anything written on me was in a single file available for my viewing. I got curious so I finally asked the bottom line question: What was going to be the cost of the privilege?

It was a monthly subscription to the service that was offered, which, in the process of accessing my data, also included names of people closely associated to me either by kinship or marriage that I can access should I decide to subscribe. Nosy by nature, like every human being, I had difficulty resisting the temptation. But I did. Besides, the monthly subscription under sunnier clime might have been dismissible (NOT!), but I was sure the already strained credit card would prefer not to get the debit.

On the exit, the service came up with an introductory offer of \$1 for five days. I resisted putting my credit card in the Internet but this time, cheap overrode common sense. So I sent them my card for a look-see on what they got on me. Before it can be shown, I was given the option to have a digitized copy of the material for another \$1.99. "Why not?" I said. \$2.99 was not going to break the bank. Of course, I should have known better.

The record came up—my name, places where I lived, and crimes I committed (none). Someone of my namesake not from my identified addresses had been to traffic court a few times, including a conviction for driving without a license.

That was it. Bummer! For the rest of the record, I would have to subscribe. The progressive access involved progressive charges. I declined and replied to their email that they were deceptive with their five-day trial offer so I immediately cancelled my five-day trial though I was assured I had the full five days to be offered again the option to fully subscribe. Neat trick.

I requested my bank that issued my credit card to refuse the charge. My bank wanted the details of the transaction although I already provided them the invoice number and the date processed.

Not unexpectedly, my email reply to *InstantCheckmate* to cancel was returned as not deliverable, and when I called their listed 1-800 number that was advertised to be open 24-hours, I was informed that I was out of their area of coverage. Bummer! I had no means of getting back to them.

By **JAIME VERGARA**  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.*



I had hoped that the customer service of my credit card would track the invoice and stop the charges. Not only were the initial charges still on record, five days later my account was debited the cost of a monthly subscription.

This would have been a matter of inconvenient logistic, a trip to the bank and a huddle with the one of the ladies at the customer service desks, a rare but pleasant exercise but it got worse.

It was on a Sunday, the afternoon spent snorkeling at Wing Beach admiring the coral reef still looking good, though locals' and tourists' tramping showed telltale signs of broken coral stones, but nonetheless, we lingered for a beautiful sunset and on the way back, to relieve the chef of kitchen duty in our little menagerie, the wife in China attending to real estate, I decided to pick up six Big Macs and three large fries with a lot of ketchup for dinner.

The card was embarrassingly declined at the drive-through. Fortunately, I was carrying enough cash and when I had time to check online, I discovered that *InstantCheckmate* charged a subscription while the bank also entered their interest charges and fees, pulling my available balance lower than McDo charges. We're really scraping the bottom of the barrel!

The inconvenience will be monumental. Customer service will cancel the card, issue another but not due till three weeks later. Not that I will miss the services of a credit card but I have reasons to mosey over to China on occasion and with but one card, should a trip be called for within the next three weeks, I shall be grossly inconvenienced; meanwhile, *InstantCheckmate* will continue programmed behavior. Surprised? It is 30 years after 1984!

If you want to know what's on public record, go directly to the source. They are not as fast or convenient as the online services, but they will not deceive you in the process. If you already know your record, spurious entries can be dealt with should they exist.

Anxiety and pride tripped me on an online service. I was checkmated. Unfortunately, it is the legitimate business of business to scare us of our sense of surety. Welcome to the times!

**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Rushing to the finish line, again

Within a month after Gov. Eloy S. Inos pointed out that only eight of the 19th Legislature bills became public law in the first nine months of the year, seven other bills immediately cleared the Senate and the House of Representatives and became law. So what used to be an average of almost one new law signed every month, became seven laws a month.

But then again, it's not the quantity and the speed with which bills become law that matter most, but the quality of legislation that's reaching the governor's desk.

One such bill that shouldn't be rushed to the finish line is the measure that amends provisions of the Saipan casino law, the same bill that Attorney General Edward Manibusan earlier said would make the Commonwealth Casino Commission a prime candidate for corruption.

The Senate insists their latest version of the bill addresses many of the AG's concerns. These include those that would have exempted the

commission from the Open Government Act so they can meet in secret and not open records for public inspections, among other things.

But more time is needed to review the latest version of the measure, not only by lawmakers but also the general public. Voting on a substitute casino amendment bill on the same day that copies of that substitute version were distributed to members—like what the Senate did recently, and the House before that—needs to stop.

Consider this. Senate floor leader Arnold Palacios (R-Saipan) himself conceded that members did not fully grasp “problematic language” of the bill that came from the House and the version that the AG commented on, that's why the Senate recalled that bill, substituted it, and then passed the new bill—on the same day.

Whether members could fully grasp the language of the substitute bill within hours of seeing it and then passing it is everyone's guess.

Prior to recalling the bill, senators passed yet another casino-related bill without public input, without much thought, and without much deliberation. For Senate President Victor Hocog (R-Rota) to say he had no idea that Sen. Frank Borja's Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs sought the AG's comment tells a lot about how the Senate handles pieces of legislation in its court.

And even when the Senate recalled the bill and passed another version of it after learning of the AG's concerns, some of the AG's important and sensible recommendations still fell on deaf ears.

For example, the Senate still increased each casino commissioner's annual salary from \$40,000 to \$65,000, which, as the AG pointed out, is higher than the salaries of essential government personnel like the public defender, public auditor and lieutenant governor. This is at a time when only a supposed “live training facility” is operating.

“The Legislature should determine whether the proposed salary increase for the commissioners is appropriate,” the AG wrote. The Senate “determined” a salary increase for casino commissioners is appropriate, and so is the salary raise for the executive director, from \$85,000 to \$100,000 a year.

Moreover, were it not for Manibusan's concerns, the bill's pre-

**By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**

Special to the Saipan Tribune



*Haidee V. Eugenio covered politics, immigration, environment, business and other news beats as a reporter for Saipan Tribune and other news media in the CNMI for 16 years.*

vious language could have allowed gambling to take place in any facilities like restaurants, Laundromats, and concession stands.

Worst of all, the bill could have granted the Casino Commission “extraordinarily broad” exemptions from the Open Government Act, freeing them from government oversight, making them a prime candidate for corruption, allowing them to meet in secret, and authorizing its personnel to gamble at the casino, “either as part of a phony investigation, or simply because the personnel wanted to gamble.”

Once again, many of lawmakers' actions on the Saipan casino amendment bill do not inspire public confidence and trust. The recurring theme seems to be that of ramming down everyone's throat bills that have to do with the Saipan casino, from legalizing it without public hearing and without a committee report, to amending it again and again.

If there's a provision in HB 19-95 that really need to be tackled immediately—or separately—it's the one that would provide funding for commission employees past their 90-day contract cycles.

That being said, the House must reject the Senate substitute, and a bicameral panel must be formed to subject the bill to further review and deliberation. The conference committee could further seek input on the legislation from the general public and certain government entities besides the Office of the Attorney General. The people expect due diligence from those they entrusted to serve the CNMI's best interests.

**By PAUL ORTIZ**

Tribune News Service



*Paul Ortiz is director of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program and associate professor of history at the University of Florida. He wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive magazine.*

## Bush and Rubio are failing their constituents

Jeb Bush and Sen. Marco Rubio are being caught wrong-footed in their own backyard.

GOP presidential contender Donald Trump recently did the unthinkable, taking his campaign to the heart of enemy territory in Florida, home of Bush and Rubio. Amid thousands of adoring fans gathered at the Trump National Doral Miami resort, he told his audience: “I'm winning Florida! I'm beating Bush and Rubio!”

Trump's boast says much about the falling fortunes of the formerly invincible Bush, Florida's ex-governor and the early favorite of big donors. But it's also bad news for Rubio, a presiding senator from Florida. Both men have failed to distance themselves from Trump's anti-immigrant politics. As a result, they've given away an advantage in the presidential race.

Strangely, these two sons of Florida have been desperately competing for the same base of GOP activists that support Trump's positions on issues ranging from immigration to minimum wage. That is a recipe for disaster because neither Bush nor Rubio have the charisma or rhetorical skills necessary to defeat Trump in a debate on these matters.

Stranger still is the failure of these two to make significant headway among Latino voters nationwide. Both candidates are fluent in Spanish and are members of Latino families. You would think that they would be able to successfully reach out to Latino voters nationally.

The reason Latinos outside Florida are not rushing to support Rubio and Bush is because of their stances on pivotal issues. Latinos have neither forgotten nor forgiven Rubio's 2013 retreat on comprehensive immigration reform. They are even more perplexed at his insistence that the issue now cannot even be addressed until some hypothetical moment in the future when the United States has achieved “border security.”

Both candidates support the newest wave of Voter ID laws sweeping the country. If Bush and Rubio can't even be bothered to defend their right to vote, why should Latinos give them their support?

A large number of Latinos are hurting economically. This is why economic issues are paramount in their minds. Nonpartisan polling data consistently shows that most Latinos are in favor of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare), Medicaid expansion and restoring the right of collective bargaining. A whopping 84 percent of Latinos support raising the federal minimum wage. Rubio and Bush are on record as opposing all of these measures.

These missed opportunities to expand their base of support will likely cost both candidates dearly. Latinos make up more than one-tenth of eligible voters across the country and are a decisive force in vote-rich states such as California, Illinois and New York.

Republicans need Latino votes to win the general election. Bush and Rubio seem like their best shot. But if those two candidates continue to miss opportunities, it could spell doom for their party in November.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Celebrating College Month with the face of truth

The challenges facing the Northern Marianas College are unprecedented in their scope, complexity, and gravity. To address these challenges successfully, NMC must have a Board of Regents that brings the CNMI together in a manner that optimally promotes the health and wellbeing of its academic community. It needs to be the engine that helps the CNMI identify the drivers and potential solutions to political, economic, and social problems. To accomplish its important mission, the NMC Board of Regents must not be subjected to political manipulation and interference. It must always maintain its independence, objectivity, and integrity. This November, proclaimed as CNMI College Month, the NMC Board of Regents has a special responsibility to show that it can and will protect that mandate.

Presently, the Board of Regents appears to be in crisis over claims published in a newspaper report that the term for certain board members may have expired. There is a growing dispute about the content of the forwarded information, as well as the motives under which it was conducted. Recently uncovered documents indicate that the records transferred to the AGO were fraught with spurious information. It was a revealing display of hard-core politics wherein intent and biases were validated by the AG's determination. This is a serious problem because the AG's findings were premised on erroneous applicable legal standard. To preserve the integrity of the college board and AG respectively, evidentiary and ultimate truths must be shed.

There may be little doubt about what the board chairman knows about the present controversy. As a former judge and now the present head of five other college board members, Juan Lizama should present shared knowledge about the controversy with the college president and the likely engineering of a special delivery information to Attorney General Edward Manibusan. The effect of a legal engineering was likely informed by unsound research, inconclusive findings, and inaccurate citations. The records used as a basis for the AG's suggestion to the governor may have been unintentionally falsified, poorly cited or left to tinkle the reader

and dangle a conclusion without an explanation. Surely, it is not a Ph.D. dissertation study, and may not be legal after all. The materials or records provided may be designed to instruct the AG what and how to think and what and how to do. The conclusion is probably most chilling on current board members' term and has now become the modus operandi at the AG when determining vacancy or unexpired term of office through guessing game. Who knows, the AG may have applied the same technique in making the AG's “comments” known to the Legislature through headline news about “corruption” exempting the casino commission from the Open Government Act one day after the Legislature acted on the exemption bill. Most classic of all is the OAG reportedly provided legal advice to the Casino Commission on the measure, yet the AG went out on a limb like a wounded duck claiming corruption over the bill by its own making through its legal representative to the commission, as reported by commission chair Juan Sablan.

It is time to bring the focus back to the role of the college president, who was paid to work at NMC without a valid contract, the same person privileged by a \$20,000 cash bonus and untold fringe benefits, in addition to being a jet setter across the Pacific. It is also time to bring the focus back to Juan's arbitrary and dictatorial circus act that has provided Miss Hart free rein while the rest of the board members are mumbling and fumbling thoughtlessly and aimlessly.

Hart's phony appearance and manipulation of the board chairman warrants another vote of no confidence! By recklessly setting up this now intractable business of knowingly compromising the board's autonomy by seeking solace and refuge in the AG, the NMC will once again be subjected to the watchful eyes of the accreditation agency. Denial does not exculpate her. Her arrogance is readily apparent as it advances her self-interest. There is only one credible rationale for her actions: anticipatory obstruction of justice. And let's not forget how her employment contract deal extension was struck.

Misinforming the AG, and therefore the public, with questionable half-truths is not a way to raise confidence in the college or the board. If Sharon and Lizama want to accomplish this goal, transparency and due process must be upheld in order to protect the rights of each and every person who is connected with the college. Under the law, any individual or organization has the right to refute any claims made against them. At a minimum, there must be an inquiry relating to malicious and unsanctioned act surrounding Juan Lizama and Sharon Hart.


**David Gérard Arriola**

Palo Alto, CA

# The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly sunny with isolated showers.  
East winds 15 to 20 mph.

▲87° ▼77°


TUESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.  
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼77°


WEDNESDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°


THURSDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°

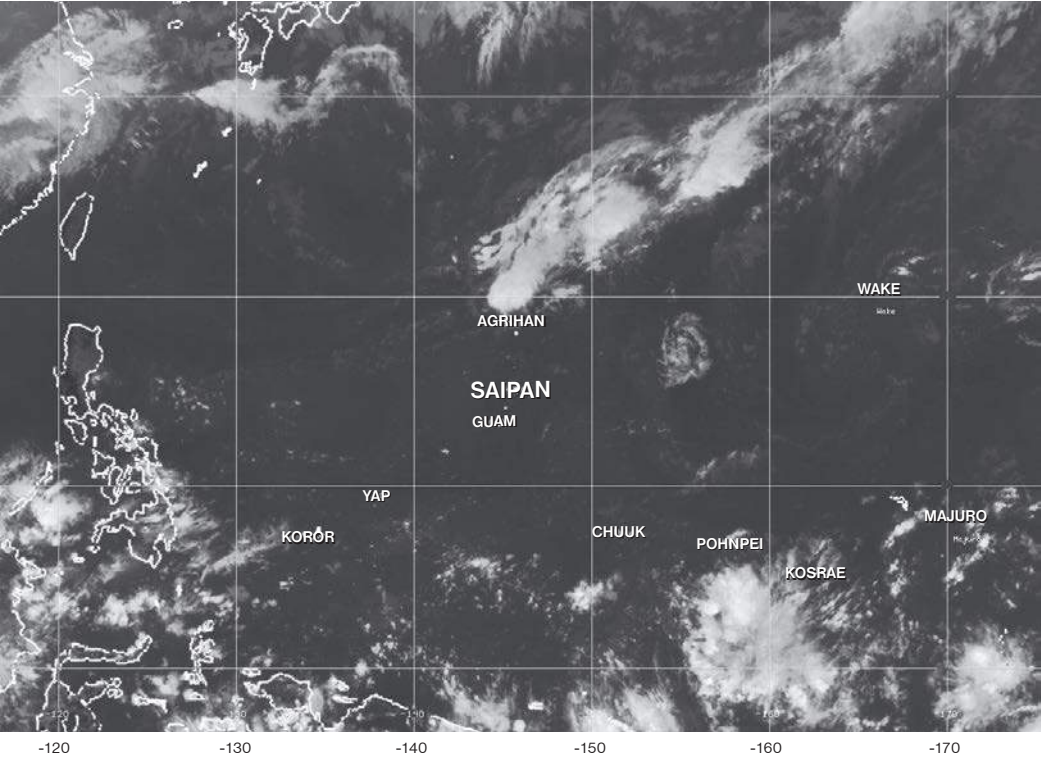
FRIDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2015**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front extends southwestward from 25N156E to 22N149E then continues as a shear line to beyond 130E at 14N. east of 146. Cloudiness, scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found along and up to 250 miles north of this boundary. The far Northern Mariana Islands and Minami Tori Shima lie near the southern edge of this area. Winds converging along the equator are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms in two areas. The first lies south of Pohnpei and Kosrae between the equator and 4N from 156E to 165E. The second is located over Tarawa south of a line from 2N172E to 2N180. A trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms east of the Marianas within 60 miles of a line from 15N154E to 17N156E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 79
Yap	Mostly Sunny	▲ 87	▼ 78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 84	▼ 80
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 80

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Cloudy	▲ 71	▼ 55
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 55	▼ 36
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 73
Honolulu	Windy	▲ 86	▼ 75
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 58	▼ 54
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲ 75	▼ 55
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 92	▼ 75
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲ 93	▼ 58
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 77
New York	Sunny	▲ 59	▼ 45
Osaka	Showers	▲ 72	▼ 63
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 62	▼ 50
Pusan	Showers	▲ 68	▼ 49
Rome	Sunny	▲ 73	▼ 52
Salem	Showers	▲ 53	▼ 39
San Francisco	Showers	▲ 61	▼ 50
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 58	▼ 44
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 75	▼ 63
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 59	▼ 43



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
12:18 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
6:26 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
12:12 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
5:55 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:16 AM	5:46 PM
Tuesday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Wednesday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM
Thursday	6:17 AM	5:45 PM
Friday	6:18 AM	5:45 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	4:02 AM	4:11 PM
Tuesday	4:49 AM	4:51 PM
Wednesday	5:37 AM	5:32 PM
Thursday	6:26 AM	6:16 PM
Friday	7:17 AM	7:02 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily			UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily		
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota			UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6			UA2920	12:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota		
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily			UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily		
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily			UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL297	4:25pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL298	10:35am	3:15pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1			7C3402	8:45am	2:15pm	3, 5, 6		
OZ626	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7		
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily			OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7		
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 3, 6, 7			OZ625	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	4, 5			OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily		
7C3401	3:15pm	7:35pm	3, 5, 6			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7								
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN			UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM		
OZ626/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM		
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA2924/183	4:15am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN		
UA2924/183	4:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM			UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota		
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5038/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM			UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5038/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM		
UA5072/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM			UA184/2920	11:59pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota		
						UA184/2927	11:59pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM		
						UA184/2929	11:59pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN			OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN		
UA2924/159	4:15am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			2D8010	7:25pm	2:35am+1	Nov 1, 6, 11, 15, 20, 25, 29, Dec 4, 9, 13, 18, 23, 27		
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM								
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM			UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
2D8009	1:55pm	5:15pm	Nov 1, 6, 11, 15, 20, 25, 29, Dec 4, 9, 13, 18, 23, 27			UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM		
						UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota		
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
						UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.											
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA					
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat			
			8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily						
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	9								

## Joeten-Kiyu Public Library resumes normal hours

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library will resume its normal hours beginning Nov. 10, 2015. Normal hours are from Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 6pm, and on Saturday, 9am to 4pm. The library is close on Sunday, Monday, and holidays.

JKPL has been closed due to damage suffered from Typhoon Soudelor. The library sustained damage to the roof, ceiling, front circulation counter, ITC, and Young Adult area.

"The community needs us. We did everything we could with the little that we have to be able to repair [the] damage so that our community is able to use their public library again," a statement from the library said.

The library was able to temporarily patch up the damage with the help of the Department of Corrections, Department of Public Safety, Saipan Mayor's Office, and Department of Lands and Natural Resources' Parks and

Recreation so it could re-open.

It has already submitted an

application for public assistance with the Federal Emergency

Management Agency to help repair the damage and is also awaiting the results of a funding request with the Saipan and

Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

For more information, call 235-7322 / 7329 / 7316. (JKPL)

## Candle-lighting rite to remember children who've passed on

The death of a child of any age, from any cause, is a shattering experience for a family. The family suffers intense pain and may feel hopeless and isolated. The holidays are often an especially difficult time.

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding their annual remembrance program to honor our children, grandchildren, and siblings gone too soon. The event will be held as part of The Compassionate Friends' 19th Annual World-wide Candle Lighting Service. Tens of thousands of bereaved family members, and friends, around the globe will join together to light remembrance candles to honor the memories of children who have died, but

will never be forgotten.

On Saipan, the remembrance ceremony will be held on Dec. 13, a Sunday, starting at 6:45pm at the Garapan Central Park, in front of Gold's Gym. Candles will be lit at 7pm local time, as we commemorate and honor the memory of all children gone too soon.

A virtual 24-hour wave of light moves from time zone to time zone around the world. As candles go out in time zones before us, they will be lit on Saipan and Guam.

Each family group or attendee will have the opportunity to light and hold their own candle in remembrance. There will be a slideshow presentation, music, and readings of loved one's

names. If you would like your child's or sibling's photo included in the slide show, email one or two photos to [nelsonkrum@msn.com](mailto:nelsonkrum@msn.com) before Saturday, Dec. 5, 2015, (or call one of the numbers below if you need help scanning a photo).

Attendees are also welcome to bring a framed photo or small memento of their loved one for a display. Light refreshments will be served following the ceremony. Please join us and bring your loved one's favorite dessert (finger food) to be shared, along with memories, after the program.

Those unable to attend may participate by simply lighting a candle at home alone, or with friends and family, and/or

submit a memorial post about a loved one in the Remembrance Book that will be available during the event, at TCF's national website at <http://www.compassionatefriends.org/home.aspx>.

Contact Jill Derickson (989-9821 or [jilld@pticom.com](mailto:jilld@pticom.com)) or Donna Krum (783-1900 or [donnakrum@gmail.com](mailto:donnakrum@gmail.com)) for further information.

The Compassionate Friends (<http://www.compassionatefriends.org/home.aspx>) is a national mutual assistance, self-help organization that offers friendship, understanding and support to family members who have experienced the death of a son, daughter, brother, sister, or grandchild, and helps others better assist grieving families. (TCF)

### 3 Saipan beach sites red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged the Grotto, Old Man By The Sea, and Hidden Beach on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from

these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)



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- 🌀 670-484-5821 🌀
- 🌀 [legendrealtynmi@gmail.com](mailto:legendrealtynmi@gmail.com) 🌀

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# BSI, DPS partner in new neighborhood policing, cleanup



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

On Saturday, some 30 Department of Public Safety officers and their families, led by Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero, joined forces with Best Sunshine International, led by chief service officer Tao Xing, in cleaning up empty and abandoned lots in downtown Garapan.

The Department of Public Safety continues to make headway in its efforts to partner up with the private sector and other agencies to sweep crime off the streets of western Garapan.

On Saturday, a joint DPS-Best Sunshine International, Ltd. weeklong cleanup of all abandoned and empty lots in western Garapan began. The common long-term direction is to put forward a larger neigh-

borhood policing and collaborative crime-solving initiative.

"Weeks after Typhoon Soudebor, police have been swamped with recovery activities. However, one of the core commitments of the [Department of Public Safety], as with any police department, is a community-oriented policing program, and in western Garapan, one of the highlights and services where we really shine and excel

in is the bike patrol program," said officer Jason Tarkong, the department's supervisor for the Sex Offender Registry.

"With Best Sunshine's help and after meetings with the DPS Commissioner [James Deleon Guerrero] and Commonwealth Bureau of Investigations, we all joined forces to enhance the safety of the community and tourists and also to bring things back into order. That involves a

lot of cleaning up. So we're here as volunteers, together with our families, to not only make this a safer environment, but also to make it more pleasing to look at. It is a privilege to sweat and

sacrifice our free time to come here and do some good," Tarkong added.

This is also about continually adapting innovative means to meet the challenges of a chang-

ing landscape, while maintaining services to the community, said Tarkong, adding that DPS will continue to develop stronger private sector linkages.

Initiated jointly with Best Sunshine, 30 police officers took a break from their routine work last Saturday to help clean up roads and empty lots along western Garapan leading up to Hotel Street. Along with BSI volunteers and employees, DPS officers cut down tall grass, trees, and shrubs. They raked and removed debris and even power-washed streets.

"We are delighted to be part of this bigger conversation, as we believe public and private sector commitment is necessary to be able to support the goal of a safer community," said BSI chief services officer Tao Xing. "Through partnership and collaboration among the private and public sector, we can fuel the development of innovative ideas to strengthen the goal of a safer and cleaner community for all."

Abandoned and empty lots eventually become hot spots for criminal activity and other crimes against the community. These unkempt and neglected areas also encourage more littering and deterioration of maintenance.

The revitalization of western Garapan to sweep crime off the streets and effectuate a week-long physical cleanup is a joint project of Best Sunshine and DPS, initiated by Best Sunshine International CSO Tao Xing with the company CSR director Rita Chong, and by DPS chief Deleon Guerrero and Commander Jeff Olopai of the Bureau of Investigations. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, DPS Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero, Best Sunshine CSO Tao Xing, and DPS' Sex Offender Registry supervisor Jason Tarkong.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A much-cleaner and safer western Garapan is the goal of the joint DPS-BSI partnership. Here, BSI's Tao Xing and the company's corporate social responsibility director Rita Chong work alongside DPS personnel.



## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-16-001

#### WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified insurance firms to provide workers' compensation insurance and administration for CUC's employees throughout the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) and when on official business away from the CNMI.

The RFP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one RFP package set. Prospective Proposers for this RFP must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division by 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on **October 29, 2015** to be considered.

**One (1) original and Six (6) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-16-001, Workers' Compensation & Administration", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than November 17, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on October 30, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Procurement Purchasing Officer via email address [manny.sablan@cucgov.org](mailto:manny.sablan@cucgov.org).

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

JOHN RIEGEL  
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Officer

# SYP celebrate Halloween Eve at Best Sunshine

The Saipan Young Professionals Committee celebrated Halloween Eve at Best Sunshine Live Bar. SYP members and guests enjoyed live entertainment, drink specials, and a night of networking with other young professionals and representatives of Best Sunshine.

"The two-hour mixer was a huge success and gave us the opportunity to kick off our Halloween weekend in a fun way," said SYP chair Mable Ayuyu.

The event also provided an opportunity for SYP members to visit Best Sunshine Live Bar for the first time. Throughout the evening, members were able to speak informally with Best Sunshine's leadership team. That afforded SYP members the opportunity to have an open discussion about Best Sunshine's current and future plans for the island.

Ayuyu said, "A few of our members used this event as an opportunity to not only have fun, but to also learn more about the company."

This year, the SYP Committee is focused on placing education at the forefront. "An important aspect of being a good leader is being educated on certain topics, especially on topics that will have a huge impact on our islands," Ayuyu said.

The SYP Committee thanks Best Sunshine Live for hosting the mixer.

In December, the committee will be holding its SYP Christmas Party on Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Barefoot Bar, Kanoa Resort from 5:30pm to 9:30pm.

"We invite all young professionals to celebrate Christmas on the beach with us," said Ayuyu.

The event will include a sunset buffet dinner, entertainment, exciting raffle prizes, and an awarding ceremony honoring



Members of the Saipan Young Professionals Committee celebrate Halloween Eve at Best Sunshine Live Bar. They are joined here by Best Sunshine's leadership team.



Members of the Saipan Young Professionals Committee celebrate Halloween Eve at Best Sunshine Live Bar.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

outstanding SYP members who have made a difference this year.

"We will also be donating to the Karidat Christmas toy drive as a way for us to give back to our community," Ayuyu said.

For tickets to the SYP Christ-

mas Party, contact the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office at (670) 234-7150 or email [administrator@saipanchamber.com](mailto:administrator@saipanchamber.com). For committee updates, visit their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/syp96950>. (SYP)

POI Aviation invites qualified US worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

#### HR and Administrative Officer

College Graduate with a Psychology or Human Resource Management Degree or other related field. At least 2 years experience in managing payroll, timekeeping, office/building administration, ISO documentation and audits/certifications. Able to work long hours, weekends and holidays.

#### Maintenance and Repair Worker

High School Diploma or GED. Preferably with related training in a vocational school. At least 2 years experience maintaining building structures including repairing mechanical and electrical equipment. Must have a reliable means of transportation

Interested applicants may send their applications to [recruitment@poiaviation.com](mailto:recruitment@poiaviation.com). To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than November 17, 2015. Applications for Employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

**POI Aviation is an Equal Opportunity Employer**  
**Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.**



Tinian International Airport  
Car Rental Concessions  
**CPA-RFP-006-16**



### Request for Proposals

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals for the award of four (4) Rental Car Concessions at the Tinian International Airport.

Proposal packages can be obtained beginning November 3, 2015 at the CPA Administration Office, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at a fee of \$50.00 per package.

Proposals must be addressed to the Executive Director, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and received by the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) on **December 11, 2015**, by or **before 12:00 p.m.**, in order to be considered for the award. All proposals will be publicly opened on December 11, 2015, at 3:00 p.m., at the CPA Conference Room.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject proposals in accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

MARYANN Q. LIZAMA  
Executive Director



Benjamin Taisacan Manglona  
International Airport  
**CPA-RFP-007-16**



### Request for Proposals

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals for the award of two (2) Rental Car Concessions at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.

Proposal packages can be obtained beginning November 3, 2015 at the CPA Administration Office, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at a fee of \$50.00 per package.

Proposals must be addressed to the Executive Director, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and received by the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) on **December 11, 2015**, by or **before 12:00 p.m.**, in order to be considered for the award. All proposals will be publicly opened on December 11, 2015, at 3:00 p.m., at the CPA Conference Room.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject proposals in accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

MARYANN Q. LIZAMA  
Executive Director

### CENTURY TOURS INC.

invites qualified US worker candidates to apply for the following positions:

#### Customer Service Agent (1)

High school diploma or equivalent. Two (02) months work experience in Travel or Tour operation or sales or service based work environment. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English, Korean, Japanese, or Chinese languages. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Able to drive tourists safely through various tour routes.

#### Accountant (1)

High School graduate, GED, Associates degree or equivalent with at least 2-3 years bookkeeping or clerical accounting work experience in tour operation, sales or service related work. Associate Degree in Accounting, Auditing, Business Management or Finance an advantage. Must be proficient with Microsoft Office applications such as Word Processor and Spreadsheet; and proficient with Accounting software such as SAP-R3 FICO (Financial and Controlling) system, ERP system, and HR2 system). Personable and flexible under pressure. Able to work independently with detailed projects and have an aptitude to learn new skills. Must be able to operate computers programmed with accounting software to record, store, and analyze information. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends.

#### Tour Sales Representative (6)

High school degree. A minimum of six (6) months to one (1) year experience in a related field. Work experience with travel and tour operation is an advantage. Able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Able to drive tourists safely through various tour routes. Preferably fluent in both written and oral communication in the English, Russian, Korean, or Chinese languages.

Interested applicants may obtain application forms from the Front Office of Century Tours, Inc., located at the ground floor of the Kanoa Resort on Beach Road in Susupe, Saipan. Offices are open Sunday-Saturday from 9 AM-6 PM. Worker's compensation provided. Applications and/or resumes may also be emailed to [hr\\_ceti@tanholdings.com](mailto:hr_ceti@tanholdings.com) until November 18, 2015. Incumbents must be able and willing to work shifts, evenings, holidays, and weekends. Drug testing is required prior to employment.

**Century Tours, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer**  
**Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.**

# GCA students are top winners in art contest

**G**race Christian Academy students are top winners in this year's Pacifica Insurance art contest, "Rest Assured It's Christmas."

Sixth-grader Julia Ji Hae Kim won in the age 6-to-11-year-old category with her ocean-life inspired artwork

featuring fish and corals.

Ellie Eichenberger in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, who won in the 12-to-17-year-old category, made a "Christmas where you live" art piece showing island Christmas, mountain Christmas, and country Christmas scenes.

Their winning entries were among the 336 entries submitted within the duration of the

art contest from Sept. 17 to Oct. 21, 2015.

Representatives of Pacifica Insurance paid a surprise visit to both winners' classrooms at GCA and awarded both winners with \$200 cash prizes and a set of art supplies.

The administration, teachers, and students of GCA are very happy for the victory of these two students. **(GCA)**

## Inos and Piñote earn NMIS United Nations titles

There was a burst of color and loud cheer as the jam-packed NMIS Lounge Area held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. and Ms. United Nations last Oct. 30, 2015. This annual competition aims to showcase the culture and beauty of different nations all over the world through performances of the preschool, elementary, and middle school student body.

This year, the muse and escort of every class competed in this much-awaited event, all wearing the national costumes of the country they were representing. From their elaborate and eye-catching costumes to their splendid performances, these candidates truly didn't fail to impress!

Gabriella B. Inos bested seven other candidates and was crowned the Ms. United Nations 2015 of Northern Marianas International School. Inos is a K-5 student under the homeroom class of Grace Rosete.

"Gabriella is a very sweet and charming girl," said Rosete. "She also participates in all classroom activities and is well-loved by her classmates."

A fourth grade student, Zillion Piñote grabbed the Mr. United Nations 2015 title. Piñote, one of the students of Roy Dolon, was described as quiet, amiable, and cheerful.



Gabriella B. Inos was crowned the Ms. United Nations 2015 of Northern Marianas International School last Oct. 30, 2015.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

His parents teach him "eskrima," a form of Philippine martial arts.

"He wants to be a policeman in the future," said Dolon.

The Top 3 winners are as follows:

■ Ms. United Nations: Gabriella B. Inos

■ 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up: Caitlin Manibusan

■ 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up: Annieskha Arreza

■ Mr. United Nations: Zillion Pinote

■ 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up: Jeremy Lizama

■ 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up: Ethan Sablan



Zillion Piñote was crowned the Mr. United Nations 2015 title last Oct. 30, 2015.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NMIS vice principal Jener A. Pineda would like to thank and congratulate all the parents, teachers, staff and students who made this momentous event a great success.

According to Wikipedia, UN Day has been celebrated globally since 1947, when the UN General Assembly declared that Oct. 24, the anniversary of the Charter of the United Nations, "shall be devoted to making known to the peoples of the world the aims and achievements of the United Nations and to gaining their support for its work." **(NMIS)**



Sixth-grader Julia Ji Hae Kim, right, and Ellie Eichenberger in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade are both winners in Pacifica Insurance's Christmas card contest.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Presentation on early Church history on Tuesday

The public is being invited to a presentation by Fr. Francis X. Hezel, SJ that will explore the early history of the Catholic Church in the Marianas, to be held at 6pm tomorrow, Nov. 10, at Charley's Cabaret of the Pacific Islands Club.

Titled "The Founding of the Church in the Marianas: A Clash of Cultures," Hezel's presentation will provide an overview of the establishment of a Catholic mission in the Marianas in 1668, an event that signaled the beginning of intense Western presence on the islands. The troubled years that fol-

lowed, marked by intermittent outbreaks of violence, has been referred to by historians as the "Spanish-Chamorro Wars."

It was during this 30-year period that a group of Jesuit priests and lay helpers, protected by a small military garrison, sought to convert the indigenous Chamorros to the Catholic faith.

According to standard textbooks, missionary efforts led to utter devastation—forced conversions, rapid cultural change, precipitous population decline, and the loss of Chamorro identity.

Drawing on his own recent research, Hezel will present a more nuanced overview of this critical period in Marianas history, one that recognizes divisions within the Spanish party as well as the local Chamorro population.

Hezel's presentation is co-sponsored by the Lay Ministry's Program of the Diocese and the Northern Marianas Humanities Council. It is open to the public and free of charge.

For more information about this upcoming event, contact Council staff at 235-4785 or visit the council's website at [www.northernmarianashumanities.org](http://www.northernmarianashumanities.org). **(NMI Humanities Council)**



Fr. Francis

## Mount Carmel School congratulates NSDA & NJSDA competitors

Mount Carmel School congratulates the following students who competed in the October meets for the National Speech & Debate Association and National Junior Speech & Debate Association:

### NSDA

■ Javier, Cathryn Jane (1st Place LD, 1st Place COM, 1st Place IMP B, 3rd Place PR MA)

■ Manglona, Thomas (1st Place USX, 1st Place PO B, 1st Place IMP A)

■ Usi, Monica (1st Place OO A, 2nd Place IMP A, 3rd Place LD, 5th Place PO MA)

■ Melchor, Jeff Matthew (1st Place DI A, 4th Place PR MA)

■ Ramirez, Reica (1st Place PO A, 1st Place PR A, 4th Place ST A)

■ Diaz, Angelica (3rd Place DIA, 3rd Place ST A)

■ Acosta, Ydelle (2nd Place PO A, 4th Place DUO A (with Erika Cunanan))

■ Cunanan, Erika (2nd Place

PR A, 4th Place PO A, 4th Place DUO A (with Acosta, Ydelle))

■ Toskas, Jonelle (5th Place DUO A (with Palacios, Michelle))

■ Palacios, Michelle (5th Place DUO A (with Toskas, Jonelle))

### NJSDA

■ Marcelo, Bernard Angelo (1st Place HI B)

■ Borja, Kalea (1st Place IMP C, 5th Place PO MA)

■ Javier, Lleyton (1st Place IMP A)

■ Cunanan, Nathanael (5th Place HI B)

■ Ham, Jim Michael (4th Place IMP D)

Much thanks also go to the volunteer judges (Rosiky Camacho, John Del Rosario, Carlos Diaz, Maria Ruby Acosta) and the school's NSDA/NJSDA coordinators, Filmah Buenaflor and Tobed Smith.



Mount Carmel School students who competed in the October meets for the National Speech & Debate Association and National Junior Speech & Debate Association have their picture taken.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

# Nation

## Without Keystone, industry must find new paths for oil

**TORONTO (AP)**—Following the Obama administration's rejection of the Keystone XL pipeline, the oil industry faces the tricky task of making sure the crude oil targeted for the pipeline still gets where it needs to go.

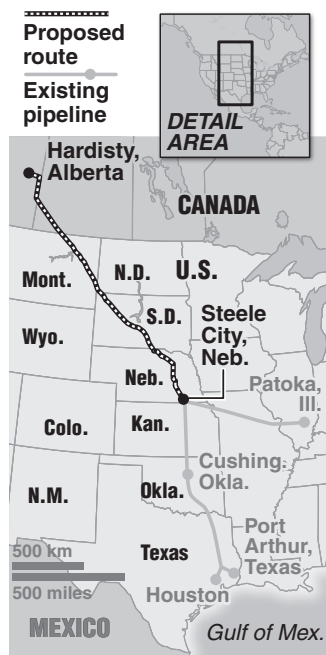
The pipeline, first proposed by TransCanada Corp. in 2008, was projected to carry 800,000 barrels a day of crude from Canada and North Dakota down to Nebraska, where existing pipelines would bring it to refineries on the Gulf Coast.

Keystone XL was expected to come online toward the end of this decade. Until then a combination of existing pipelines and railroads was expected to be enough to handle anticipated production. Now the question becomes whether there will be enough pipeline capacity to move the oil and keep costs from getting too expensive.

Skip York, vice president of integrated energy at consultancy Wood Mackenzie, said the oil industry "didn't need Keystone today," but will need the capacity in the future. President Barack Obama's decision means shipping the oil will require "a more expensive

### Pipeline rejected

*The Obama Administration rejected the proposed Keystone XL crude oil pipeline that would have connected Canada to existing pipelines in the U.S.*



Source: TransCanada, White House  
Graphic: Tribune News Service

form of transportation than it would have with Keystone XL," he said.

At the moment, the biggest impediment to the flow of oil is low prices. Oil has averaged



TransCanada's Keystone pipeline facilities are seen in Hardisty, Alberta, Canada, on Friday, Nov. 6, 2015.

AP

about \$50 this year, making many projects in the Canadian oil sands uneconomical. According to Wood Mackenzie, projects totaling about 485,000 barrels a day have been delayed this year. Canadian oil producers still expect production to rise to 5.3 million barrels a day in 2030, up from 3.7 million barrels a day in 2014, even after lowering their forecast to take into effect the impact of lower prices.

The U.S. imports more crude oil from Canada than from any other country, about 3.4 million barrels a day as of August, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Tim McMillan, president and chief executive officer of the Canadian Association of Oil Producers, is concerned that the rising cost of getting oil to market could hurt the Canadian industry's competitiveness. Last

month, Shell abandoned an oil sands project in Alberta, and its CEO pointed to concerns about high costs and insufficient pipeline capacity for the decision.

McMillan said other proposed pipeline projects should be able to help make up for lost shipments via Keystone XL.

About 100,000 barrels a day of the oil that was supposed to move through Keystone XL would have come from North

Dakota, where a boom in unconventional drilling has propelled it to become the No. 2 producing state in the U.S. behind Texas.

Keystone XL would have reduced some of the dependence on rail and truck shipments, said Kari Cutting, vice president of the North Dakota Petroleum Council, which represents more than 500 companies working in the state's oil patch.

## Sorting sexting offenders from victims will take time

**DENVER (AP)**—It could take a month to sort the offenders from the victims in a widespread sexting case at a Colorado high school, and then authorities plan to file charges only if "absolutely necessary," a prosecutor said.

An unspecified number of Canon City High School students have been suspended over the exchange of hundreds of explicit photos of students as young as eighth-graders.

An investigation began Monday after some people contacted school officials and

a tip came through a state student safety hotline.

Three phones have been confiscated, and authorities are seeking search warrants to examine them. It's unclear how many students posed for nude pictures and the investigation is expected to take about 30 days, Canon City Police Capt. Jim Cox said Friday.

"We're not out to hang every kid. We don't want the victims to think they did something wrong, but we do want to know what happened," Cox said.

Fremont County District At-

torney Tom LeDoux said some students could face charges that cause them to register as sex offenders, because students under the age of 18 cannot consent to taking or exchanging nude photographs under Colorado law.

"But I take the implication of that very seriously and would urge that only if I felt it was absolutely necessary. It is possible there will be no criminal charges filed at all," LeDoux said.

The possession of explicit photos of minors is a felony in Colorado, which, like many states, has

not updated laws intended to fight adult exploitation of children for the smartphone age.

School Superintendent George Welsh wouldn't discuss the suspensions or say how long they would last to protect the students' privacy.

Enough football players were involved that the school forfeited its final game of the season this weekend because officials did not think the team should represent the community. The district has said girls and boys are involved in the sexting.

## Big spending expected for state legislative races in 2016

**JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP)**—While the presidential campaign commands the public's attention, political parties and financial contributors are quietly preparing for another less glitzy yet significant set of elections a year from now—battles to determine control of dozens of state legislative chambers.

National Republican and Democratic groups have set record-high fundraising goals as they try to influence the outcome

of 2016 state legislative races. Independent political committees appear likely to join the fray.

With Congress frequently paralyzed by partisanship, legislative elections are gaining attention because states are the ones pushing change. In recent years, state legislatures have been addressing gun control, infrastructure, education standards, renewable energy, marijuana and transgender rights.

The races also are critical to political parties because legisla-

tures in most states are responsible for drawing the boundaries for congressional and state legislative districts. The party in charge can help ensure favorable districts—and thus potentially remain in power—for a decade to come.

In the 2012 elections, for example, Democratic candidates for the U.S. House received about 1.4 million more votes than their Republican opponents, yet the GOP won a 33-seat majority in that chamber,

partly because GOP-dominated state legislatures drew political maps to favor their party.

While the next round of redistricting in 2021 may seem far away, it often takes several elections for parties to build a majority or chip away at one.

That's why some Democrats have described next year's state legislative elections as vital if they are to begin reversing recent Republican gains. The GOP controls 69 of the nation's 99 state legislative chambers, its most ever.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Police: Mother kills son, herself at Phoenix-area hospital

**MESA, Ariz. (AP)**—A mother of a patient at a suburban Phoenix children's hospital took her son's life before taking her own, police said Saturday. Mesa police spokesman Steve Berry said nurses at Cardon Children's Medical Center in Mesa found the woman and her 5-year-old child dead inside the child's room while conducting a 2 a.m. bed check. "Every two hours they do a check," Berry said. "They were seen alive and fine at midnight and then found at 2 a.m." The mother had a fatal gunshot wound, Berry said. He could not describe how the child died. Upon finding the pair, the nurses immediately called for trauma units as well as security. An off-duty police officer was already working at the hospital, according to authorities.

#### Navy does missile test off coast, creates streaking light

**SAN DIEGO (AP)**—The Navy has fired an unarmed missile from a submarine off the coast of Southern California, creating a bright light that streaked across the state and was visible as far away as Nevada and Arizona. A Navy spokesman told *The San Diego Union-Tribune* the Navy Strategic Systems Programs conducted the missile test Saturday in the Pacific Test

Range northwest of Los Angeles. Cmdr. Ryan Perry said the launches are conducted on a frequent basis to ensure the continued reliability of the system and that information about such test launches is classified prior to the launch. The lack of information about the streak of light led to a flurry of calls to law enforcement agencies and lit up social media as people posted video of the celestial sight.

#### Louisiana police arrest 2 officers in autistic boy's death

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)**—Two Louisiana law enforcement officers remained jailed Saturday while their colleagues tried to sort out the details that led to the death of a 6-year-old and the severe wounding of his father in a hail of gunfire. Derrick Stafford, 32, of Mansura, and Norris Greenhouse Jr., 23, of Marksville, each faced charges of second-degree murder and second-degree attempted murder. They were being held in the Avoyelles Parish jail. The dead child was 6-year-old Jeremy Mardis, who was in a car being driven Tuesday by his father, Chris Few. State police said Stafford is a full-time lieutenant with the Marksville Police Department; Greenhouse is a full-time city marshal. Both were working part-time as deputy marshals in Marksville's Ward 2 when Tuesday's shooting broke out, state police said.

# Asia

## Presidents of China, Taiwan meet for the first time and shake hands



Taiwan's President Ma Ying-jeou, left, and China's President Xi Jinping shake hands at the Shangri-la Hotel on Saturday, Nov. 7, 2015, in Singapore.

**SINGAPORE** (AP)—The leaders of China and Taiwan met Saturday for the first time since the formerly bitter Cold War foes split amid civil war 66 years ago, and though no concrete agreement resulted, both hailed the meeting as a sign of a new stability in relations.

Chinese President Xi Jinping and Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou came together on neutral ground in the Southeast Asian city-state of Singapore, walking toward each other in a hotel ballroom in front of a backdrop of yellow—a traditional color of Chinese emperors.

The two men smiled broadly as they shook hands for more than one minute, turning slightly to the side to accommodate a host of photojournalists in the ballroom. No national flags were present—a necessary work-around to overcome China's refusal to recognize Taiwan's sovereignty or its government's formal legitimacy—and the two men were referred to merely as "Mr. Xi" and "Mr. Ma" to further reduce the chances of bruised sensitivities.

In brief opening remarks in front of reporters before going into a closed-door meeting, Xi said, "History will record this day." He alluded to China's long-cherished goals of unification with Taiwan, saying, "We are one family," and "No force can pull us apart."

Ma said, "Both sides should respect each other's values and way of life," while adding that relations between the sides were "the most peaceful and stable they have ever been."

When they split in 1949, both sides aspired to absorb the other, with each claiming the mantle of the only legitimate government of all of China, Taiwan included. Communist Party-ruled China still demands that Taiwan eventually be unified with the

mainland, by force if necessary, while many citizens of democratic Taiwan increasingly prefer to simply maintain the separate status the island has carved out over more than six decades.

Critics of Ma in Taiwan are wary that his meeting with Xi and similar contacts will pave the way for Beijing to assert greater control over the island, further deepening its international isolation.

However, Ma said at a post-meeting news conference that he discussed with Xi the Taiwanese people's desire for greater participation in global society, particularly for nongovernmental organizations. China refuses to acknowledge the island as anything other than a breakaway province, and pressure from Beijing keeps Taiwan out of the United Nations and other major multinational organizations.

Ma said Xi told him that China would "appropriately handle" Taiwanese moves toward greater participation on a case-by-case basis.

Each leader hopes to seal his legacy as one who helped bring decades of division and mistrust to a mutually acceptable end. But the meeting was more about the symbolism of coming together than about substance. Both sides had said no agreements would be signed or joint statements issued.

In all, the two men met for an hour. Afterward, the two sides held separate news conferences, handled for the Chinese side by spokesman Zhang Zhijun of the Taiwan Affairs Office and for the Taiwanese side by Ma himself.

"We are here today so that the tragedies in our history cannot be replayed," Zhang quoted Xi as saying at the meeting.

Zhang said that China understands Taiwan's desire for greater international space, but that

Beijing cannot agree to moves that would "split the country," reflecting its insistence that only it can represent the Chinese nation.

Ma also said they discussed upgrading a hotline between their Cabinet-level agencies responsible for contacts between the sides and agreed to study the issue of establishing representative offices on each other's soil, a long-shot proposal that has languished for years.

He said he also told Xi about fears in Taiwan that China might make good on its military threats, as seen in the scores of missiles based directly opposite the island and recent Chinese war games that appeared to simulate an attack on Taiwan's presidential office.

Ma said Xi told him that China's defense was "comprehensive" and not directed at any parties in particular.

Following his news conference, Ma joined Xi at a banquet at the upscale Shangri-La Hotel, where the meeting was held.

Three decades of hostilities followed the 1949 split, occasionally bursting into warfare in the Taiwan Strait—including over the once heavily militarized Matsu and Kinmen island group—making dialogue all but impossible. Tensions eased after China shifted to endorsing the option of "peaceful unification" alongside military threats in 1979, although it wasn't until 1993 that representatives of the two governments met in Singapore to establish the groundwork for future talks.

While subsequent talks achieved little, they began bearing fruit after Ma's election in 2008, resulting in 23 agreements on trade and technical matters. Although that has failed to produce Beijing's desired progress on political matters, Saturday's meeting was seen as moving the relationship into a new stage.

# World

## Noise is heard in the last second of Russian plane's cockpit recording

**CAIRO** (AP)—A noise was heard in the last second of the cockpit voice recording from the Russian plane that crashed last week in Egypt's Sinai Peninsula, the head of the joint investigation team said Saturday. The statement bolstered U.S. and British suspicions that the plane was brought down by a bomb.

However, Ayman el-Muqadem warned it was too early to say what caused the plane to apparently break up in mid-flight. Analysis of the noise was underway.

"All scenarios are being considered ... it could be lithium batteries in the luggage of one of the passengers, it could be an explosion in the fuel tank, it could be fatigue in the body of the aircraft, it could be the explosion of something," said El-Muqadem, who is Egyptian and leading the investigation committee that includes experts from Russia, France,

Germany and Ireland, where the plane was registered. El-Muqadem appeared alone at the news conference in Cairo.

U.S. and British officials have cited intelligence reports as indicating that the Oct. 31 flight from the Sinai resort town of Sharm el-Sheikh to St. Petersburg was brought down by a bomb on board. All 224 people onboard, most of them Russian tourists, were killed.

Islamic State extremists claimed they brought down the Metrojet flight, without offering proof, saying it was in retaliation for Moscow's airstrikes that began a month earlier against fighters in Syria.

El-Muqadem said debris was found scattered across a 13-kilometer (8-mile) stretch of desert, indicating the Airbus A321-200 broke up mid-air, but initial observations don't shed light on what caused it. Some pieces of wreckage were

still missing, while the recovered pieces will be taken to Cairo for analysis, he said.

Egyptian airport and security officials told The Associated Press on Saturday that authorities were questioning airport staff and ground crew who worked on the plane and had placed some employees under surveillance. The officials all spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the media.

Also Saturday, Egypt's foreign minister complained that Western governments had not sufficiently helped Egypt in its war on terrorism.

Egypt's past calls for assistance and coordination on terrorism issues from "the countries that are now facing the danger" had not been dealt with seriously, Sameh Shoukry told a news conference. "European countries did not give us the cooperation we are hoping for," he said.

## Death toll rises to 41 in Romanian nightclub fire

**BUCHAREST, Romania** (AP)—Nine more people died with burn-related injuries on Saturday, just over a week after a fire broke out in a Bucharest nightclub, authorities said, bringing the death toll in the tragedy to 41.

Many in Romania have blamed lax government safety standards for the deadly blaze. Prime Minister Victor Ponta and his Cabinet resigned Wednesday after mass protests.

The district mayor where the nightclub is located was arrested, along with two town hall employees, for giving out a permit without it being authorized by firefighters, the anti-corruption prosecutors' office said Saturday.

Mayor Cristian Popescu Piedone resigned on Wednesday, saying he was

morally guilty for the fire.

Multiple hospitals reported deaths Saturday from the Oct. 30 blaze, which erupted at the Colectiv basement nightclub during a heavy metal concert when a spark from a pyrotechnic show ignited foam decor. Panicked people fled for the sole exit in a stampede, leaving 180 injured.

Adrian Stanculea, spokesman for the state burns hospital, said three men died at that facility, while the manager at University Hospital, Catalin Cirstoiu, said a man there died of his injuries.

Raed Arafat, an emergency situations official, said two patients who had been sent to the Netherlands for specialized burns treatment had died, including a 20-year-old Italian

woman who was a student in Romania. Eight patients were transported by military plane to the Netherlands for treatment, he said.

Interim Prime Minister Sorin Campeanu said a patient at the Floreasca emergency hospital in Bucharest also succumbed to his injuries. A second person died later at the same hospital, said hospital spokesman Ioan Lascar.

The ninth person to die Saturday was a woman who had been in a critical state since the fire. She died at the Bagdasar-Arseni hospital said hospital spokesman, Andrei Carantino.

Campeanu said earlier Saturday that 109 other people still remained hospitalized, 48 of them in serious or critical condition.

## Witnesses: 7 killed in fresh attack in Burundi capital

**BUJUMBURA, Burundi** (AP)—Seven people were killed in an overnight attack at a bar in the latest violence in the Burundi capital, witnesses said Sunday.

Neighbors found bloodied bodies lying on the floor after gunshots were heard Saturday night at the bar in the Kanyosha neighborhood, south of Bujumbura.

Venant Rwakiranya, who lives near the bar and saw the bodies, said Sunday that the bar's owner, his nephew and one of his employees were among the victims.

The gunmen ordered everyone seated outside the bar to move inside before they started shooting indiscriminately, said another witness, who re-

quested anonymity because of safety concerns.

International concern is growing over the security situation in the central African nation, which been hit by unrest following the president's decision to seek more time in office.

At least 198 people have been killed in Burundi since late April, when President Pierre Nkurunziza announced his bid that was ultimately successful for a third term in office, according to U.N. officials. The actual death toll is likely much higher, as many of the killings go unreported.

A government-issued deadline to turn in illegal weapons or face extraordinary police action expired midnight Saturday and Nkurunziza has urged the

security forces to use all means necessary to restore order.

State Department spokesperson John Kirby, in a statement Saturday, said the U.S. was "particularly concerned" that the recent "inflammatory rhetoric" of some government officials and Nkurunziza "planned security crackdown this weekend" are increasing the risk of an outbreak of mass violence in Burundi.

Although the current violence appears to be political, Burundi has a history of deadly conflicts between the country's Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups. Nkurunziza took power in 2005 near the end of a civil war in which some 300,000 people were killed between 1993 and 2006.

# Health & Fitness

## Virtual doctor visits offer convenience, lower costs

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—When you're coming down with a cold, there are a few items you typically reach for to start feeling better: cough drops, herbal tea, maybe an over-the-counter medication.

For most of us, though, a

### Heroin, prescription pain pills top drug threat in the US

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Heroin and prescription pain pills are among the top drug threats in the U.S., according to the Drug Enforcement Administration's latest drug threat assessment Wednesday.

Chuck Rosenberg, the DEA's acting administrator, said there were more than 46,000 drug overdoses in 2013. About half were from prescription drugs and about 8,000 more from heroin, he said.

"Sadly this report confirms what we've known for some time," Rosenberg told reporters.

The DEA's 2015 National Drug Threat Assessment found that heroin is most popular among drug users in the Northeast and Midwest, though availability of the potent street drug has increased across the country and use rose by about 50 percent between 2013 and 2014.

Seizures of the drug nearly doubled between 2010 and 2014, from 2,761 kilos to 5,013 kilos.

Rosenberg said the U.S. heroin market is supplied largely by Mexico's powerful and violent drug cartels.

Methamphetamine, also supplied by Mexican drug cartels, was listed as another top drug threat by the DEA.

One positive trend, Rosenberg said, was the declining use and availability of cocaine. In 2014, cocaine availability stabilized at "new normal" levels "well below availability levels observed prior to 2007." That was the first year that drug agents noted a significant decline in cocaine availability.

### Pfizer doubling patient income limit for free drug program

**TRENTON, N.J. (AP)**—As the furor over soaring U.S. prescription drug prices escalates and outrageous price hikes by several smaller drugmakers give the entire industry a black eye, the biggest U.S.-based drugmaker is expanding financial assistance to patients.

Pfizer Inc. says it's doubling its income limit for people to receive dozens of its medicines without a copayment because more patients need help. Patients' insurance plans generally must then pay the bulk of

smartphone wouldn't top that list. But that may change as health care companies increasingly steer customers toward streaming video apps that connect patients with doctors online.

The push toward virtual health care comes as many primary doctors are over-booked and patients struggle with their own busy schedules. At the same time, insurers and employers see an opportunity to save money by reducing pricier visits to doctors' offices and urgent care clinics.

Outsourcing care is not new. In rural areas, doctors have long relied on telephone and video connections to consult with specialists far away.

But this year an estimated 450,000 patients will see a doctor over the Internet for basic ailments like colds, infections or aches and pains, according to the American Telemedicine Association industry group. Here are some key questions and answers about these virtual visits.

#### Q: How do these services work?

A number of companies allow consumers to connect with a health care provider through a smartphone, tablet or computer. Some of the leading companies include Teladoc, Doctor on Demand and MDLive. Typically patients are routed to a doctor who is licensed to practice and prescribe medicine in their home state.

#### Q: If this technology isn't new, why am I hearing about it now?

In the last year, several leading health care companies announced they would begin incorporating telemedicine into their offerings. Walgreens is currently rolling out a virtual doctor service in 25 states. Meanwhile, UnitedHealth Group and the Blue Cross-Blue Shield insurer Anthem prepare to make telemedicine services available to more than 40 million people by 2016.

This increased adoption is partially a response to recent law changes in 29 states requiring health insurance companies to cover telemedicine delivered

via online video or over the phone. Additionally, the programs appeal to consumers and their employers by reducing time lost to traditional doctor appointments.

"The ability to get a doctor to see you within minutes from your phone is something that people really value," says Dr. Jonah Feldman, a health care delivery specialist at Winthrop University Hospital.

#### Q: How much do online visits cost?

It depends. If you're in one of the states that require insurance coverage of telemedicine, you may not owe anything—or you may only owe your standard copay, which can range from \$15 to \$25. But even without insurance, you may still save money. Most online services charge about \$40 to \$50 per consultation, which is about half the typical \$100 or more to see a primary care doctor.

The savings could be even greater compared with an emergency room visit, which typically costs hundreds of dollars. Many people who don't have insurance go to the emergency room as a last resort when other health providers won't see them.

Those savings have attracted interest in the technology from large insurers and employers.

"If I'm managing a health plan, I clearly don't want someone to go to the emergency room for coughs, colds, sneezes or urinary infections," said Dr. Ford Brewer, an executive with MDLive, which provides online consultations for Humana, Cigna and other companies.

#### Q: What kind of issues can a doctor address online?

Most online services specialize in treating easy-to-diagnose conditions, including colds, ear infections, rashes and allergy problems. Doctors in telemedicine companies can usually prescribe from a small list of common medications. The prescription is typically sent electronically to a pharmacy near the patient.

Virtual visits can also be effective for addressing mental

health issues like anxiety and depression.

Brewer says the demand for online therapists is driven by the same issues affecting primary care doctors.

"There's just not enough access out there in the country," Brewer says. "So you have that ability for mental health providers, as well as primary care docs, to be able to see more patients, provide more access online." It's important to note that the level of care available

to patients can vary by state. For instance, some states require a doctor to have an established relationship with a patient, which might include a physical or mental exam, before allowing them to do a telemedicine visit.

#### Q: What type of problems cannot be addressed online?

Telemedicine companies are generally not designed to handle medical emergencies and will instead direct patients to call 911. Likewise, they will not at-

tempt to treat complex, chronic diseases like cancer, Parkinson's disease or Alzheimer's.

Finally, experts say most companies will not write prescriptions for addictive painkillers or non-essential medications like Viagra.

"Patients should not expect to get controlled substances, lifestyle drugs or anything that's going to raise eyebrows," says Nathaniel Lacktman, an attorney who specializes in telemedicine.

## Study: Nearly half of US pregnant women gain too much weight

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Nearly half of U.S. moms gain too much weight during pregnancy, according to a government study released Thursday.

Putting on too many extra pounds during pregnancy can harm the mom, and may cause a range of problems for the child, experts say.

The study found only about a third of women gain the recommended amount of weight, and about a fifth gained too little.

Overweight and obese women most commonly exceeded the guidelines.

Women need to eat extra calories during pregnancy, al-

though not that much—only about 350 to 450 extra calories during the second and third trimester, said Andrea Sharma, one of the study's authors from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"It's not about eating twice as much. It's eating twice as healthy," she said.

How much moms should gain depends on their weight when they become pregnant.

Experts say women of normal weight should add 25 to 35 pounds. Overweight women should gain 15 to 25, and obese women should only add 10 to 20. For unusually thin women,

weight gain should be about 30 to 40 pounds.

Gaining too little weight increases the risk that the baby will be born very small. Too much weight can lead to obesity and other health problems for the mom. It can lead to dangerous complications during labor and delivery. And it raises the risk the baby will become obese, diabetic, and have other problems later in life.

The study involved more than 3 million U.S. pregnant women during 2012 and 2013. In most of the 46 states included, birth certificates now also record pregnancy weights.

### Personal Trainer

## Common exercise myths

*These are the most common misconceptions that professional fitness trainers say they hear from their clients:*



#### Weightlifting gives women big muscles

Fact: Women usually don't have enough of the hormone testosterone to develop bulging muscles

#### "Spot reducing" is possible

Fact: Focused exercises can't "burn fat off" from a specific body part; regular exercise and good diet reduce body fat generally



#### "No pain, no gain"

Fact: Exercising to the point of pain can do more harm than good; productive exercises may be uncomfortable, but should not be painful

#### Exercise and you can eat whatever you want

Fact: It's not so; to reach and maintain a healthy weight, eat fruits and vegetables, avoid processed high-sugar foods and eat moderate portions



#### Exercise takes a major time commitment

Fact: Any amount of regular exercise enhances health and well-being; 30 minutes a day helps maintain good health

#### There's a magic bullet or quick fix out there

Fact: There is none; many nutritional supplements and fad diets are marketed deceptively



Source: Survey of 1,500 fitness professionals by American Council on Exercise  
Graphic: Paul Trap, Tribune News Service

## Life & Style

# Hosting 'SNL,' Donald Trump fends off mock heckler

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Donald Trump hadn't gotten far into his opening monologue before trouble occurred. An off-screen heckler interrupted with a cry of "You're a racist!"

But the "heckler" was comedian Larry David, who before Trump arrived on-stage had been seen impersonating Democratic presidential hopeful Bernie Sanders.

"Larry, what are you doing?" Trump asked with a trace of exasperation.

"I heard if I yelled that, they'd give me \$5,000," said David with a shrug, echoing an offer made publicly by one of the Hispanic groups protesting Trump's appearance.

"As a businessman," Trump told him, "I can fully respect that."

Trump's 90 minutes in the "SNL" spotlight followed weeks of growing anticipation, increasingly sharp criticism and mounting calls for him to be dropped from the show. But the Republican presidential candidate hosted Saturday's "SNL" as scheduled. And, at least in NBC's Studio 8H, there was no

more unrest—orchestrated or otherwise.

During his monologue, Trump promised his hosting appearance would be "something special," while noting that many people had asked him why he accepted the gig. He said they had told him, "You're brilliant, you're handsome, you're rich. The world is waiting for you to be president. Why?"

His answer: "I had nothing better to do."

"But part of the reason I'm here," he added, "is to show I can take a joke."

In one sketch, Trump was willing to mock his penchant for tweeting insults about people with whom he differs.

"I hate to break it to you guys," he told viewers, "but I'm not going to be in the next sketch." Instead, off-camera, he live-tweeted comments that were flashed on the screen about "SNL" cast members performing a skit:

"Cecily Strong is not a nice person."

"Kate McKinnon was born stupid."

"I love SNL ... SNL loves me. But everyone in this sketch is a total loser who can bite my dust."

Another sketch imagined Trump in the Oval Office in 2018—two years into his presidency—savoring his many successes.

By then, Syria is at peace. China is borrowing money from the U.S. Trump's real-life daughter, Ivanka, is the administration's secretary of the interior, and announces the Washington Monument will be covered with gold.

Did it all sound too good to be possible?

"If you think that's how it's going to be when I'm president, you're wrong. It's going to be even better," Trump said, addressing the audience. "I said to the writers of this sketch, 'Keep it modest.'" His preference, he insisted, was to keep expectations low for his presidency and not overpromise.

Until Saturday, just eight politicians had served as guest hosts in the NBC sketch comedy series' 40 years. Only one

of those—the Rev. Al Sharpton, in 2003—was actively involved in a presidential bid at the time. (Hillary Clinton appeared in last month's season premiere, but not as the host.)

The star turn granted Trump fanned the flames of outrage sparked in June when he announced his Republican candidacy for president and described some Mexicans who are in the United States illegally as criminals and rapists.

Hours before the show's 11:30 p.m. EST Saturday start time, dozens of protesters marched from Trump Tower to NBC's studio in Rockefeller Plaza, chanting in both English and Spanish and carrying signs. In Spanish, they chanted: "The people united shall never be defeated" and signs declared SNL racist.

"I feel like they're giving him a platform," said Hazel Hernandez, 26, who emigrated from El Salvador and now lives in Brooklyn. "I'm an immigrant myself, so I'm pretty outraged. I've been in this country for many years, and I'm outraged

that they would let him host SNL. It's upsetting."

Trump's comments last summer spurred NBC to sever its Miss Universe ties with him while declaring he would never return to his "Apprentice" role.

But leading up to Saturday's broadcast, NBC did not respond to accusations that it had reversed itself, or to the outcry against Trump that had built since "SNL" announced his host booking last month.

## Stallone still packs punch with Rocky fans ahead of 'Creed'



Sylvester Stallone, from left, Michael B. Jordan and Tessa Thompson watch as they are introduced for a press conference promoting their film "Creed" outside the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Friday, Nov. 6, 2015, in Philadelphia.

# Jolie Pitt turns grief over mom's death into 'By the Sea'

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—"By the Sea" is a very personal film for Angelina Jolie Pitt—and not just because it reunites her on-screen with her husband, Brad Pitt. It's not even because she wrote, directed, produced and stars in the film.

"By the Sea" is personal because it was inspired by the grief of losing her mother in 2007, Jolie Pitt said Thursday at the film's premiere, AFI Fest's opening-night gala at Hollywood's TCL Chinese Theatre.

She started writing when she was missing her mother, without knowing exactly what she was creating.

"When you write something from a blank page, it's very hard to say, 'This is important,' because you don't know: It's your own life. It's your own depression. It's your own questions about your mother. Grief. Where to put your pain," Jolie Pitt said. "For me, it was important to try to do it. And it was important to try to do it for my mother. It was important for myself. And it was wonderful to work with Brad, and for us to be able to get through it together, because we tested ourselves to see if we could do something like this together."

"By the Sea" is a slow, quiet drama about a wealthy American couple on a French seaside retreat. Roland (Pitt) is there to write, but mostly just ends up drinking. Vanessa (Jolie Pitt) is there to relax, but ends up



In this photo provided by Universal Pictures, Angelina Jolie Pitt, left, directs and stars as Vanessa on the set of the film "By the Sea."

grumping around and popping pills. They avoid each other and their relationship is clearly strained. Their dynamic begins to change when they befriend (and secretly spy on) a newlywed couple on their honeymoon.

The camera lingers on Roland's lean frame and Vanessa's face and figure.

As in 2005's "Mr. & Mrs. Smith," the two stars play a married pair facing serious relationship challenges. Only this time, the actors relied on the strength of their real-life relationship to do it.

"It's really no different than

trying to get the kids to bed at night," Pitt said. "I mean, you know, it's a tag team, Ultimate Wrestling kind of endeavor. And here on set, again, we're working together and solving problems and making the thing work and figuring it out. And there's just a great collaboration. She's just, she's my wife."

As for being directed by his spouse?

"She's very decisive. She's really intuitive," Pitt said. "Her instincts are really good with stories. So, I really trust her when she redirects a scene."

Jolie Pitt loved working with

her husband, too.

"You're going to have a long life ahead of you and you've got to shake it up and, sometimes, it's really wonderful to test yourselves, to push each other," she said. I talked to (actress) Gena Rowlands. She was talking before, and how she and (director-husband) John (Cassavetes) (would) take the rubber band and you stretch it as far as you can. And this is a part of marriage and this is wonderful. So, that I loved. And that was what we did."

"By the Sea" opens in theaters Nov. 13

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)**—There's a scene in "Creed" where the latest brash boxer who challenges the upstart protégé of Rocky Balboa barks, "No one cares about Balboa anymore!"

Yo, through 40 years of Rocky as an underdog, champion, and aging, widowed fighter, fans sure do care.

Dressed in robes, fedora hats and even boxing boots, the costumed enthusiasts chanting "Rocky! Rocky! Rocky!" on Friday had one more reason to cheer for Philadelphia's favorite fictional son.

Sylvester Stallone goes one more round as Balboa in the spinoff "Creed," and he wants the character to tally even more before he joins Adrian, Apollo and Paulie in that great squared circle in the sky.

"There's more to go," Stallone said Friday. "I would like to follow this character until eventually he's an angel."

The 69-year-old Stallone, writer of the first "Rocky" that earned 10 Academy Award nominations including best picture, promised more movies based on Balboa and Adonis Creed. Creed is the son of Rocky's heavyweight rival and beach-running friend, Apollo Creed, and the titular character who coaxed Balboa out of retirement and into a trainer's role in the movie set for a Nov. 25 release.

Stallone and fellow "Creed" actors Michael B. Jordan and

Tessa Thompson, writer-director Ryan Coogler and producer Irwin Winkler attended a celebration of the movie atop the Philadelphia Museum of Art steps.

Mayor Michael Nutter attended a screening Thursday night and said the movie should win an Academy Award for best picture. The "Rocky" series spawned six more movies, and all the films shared a common co-star with Stallone—Philadelphia.

"The movie put Philadelphia literally on the map," Nutter said.

Stallone's run through the Italian Market and up the museum's 72 steps in the first movie propped both locations from local landmarks into iconic tourist attractions. A bronze statue of the hard-luck fighter stands at the base of the steps.

"Creed" opens a more modern Philadelphia to a new generation of fans: Johnny Brenda's, Max's Steaks, Front Street Gym. All take center stage in the new flick and so does newer lingo. "Yo!" makes way for "jawn," a Philly word that can be used to describe anything.

When Los Angeles transplant Creed (Jordan) has his first cheesesteak with love interest Bianca (Thompson), she asks for "some peppers on that jawn."

"Jawn this, jawn that," Creed said. "What's that?"

Thompson said she spent about two months around Philadelphia to add native authenticity to her character.

# 'Force Awakens' screened for terminally ill 'Star Wars' fan

## John Lennon's guitar sells for \$2.4 million at auction

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—An acoustic guitar that John Lennon used to record and write "Love Me Do," "I Want to Hold Your Hand" and other hit songs sold for \$2.4 million at auction.

Julien's Auctions said the Gibson J-160E guitar was sold Saturday to an undisclosed buyer.

The auction house said the guitar was one of only two of its type flown from America to England in 1962 for Lennon and George Harrison. Lennon used the guitar for about a year before swapping it with Harrison; it later went missing during a Christmas concert in 1963.

The guitar's whereabouts was unknown for over 50 years until a California man

discovered last year that a guitar in his possession may have historical value.

John McCaw of San Diego, who bought the guitar in the late 1960s for \$275, stumbled on an old magazine story about Harrison, which featured a photo of the instrument which bore similar markings as his guitar.

An expert was able to match the guitar's serial number, wood grain and markings to the one Lennon used in the early 1960s, Julien's Auction said in a news release.

The drum head that the Beatles used in their landmark performance on "The Ed Sullivan Show" was auctioned Saturday for \$2.1 million, the auction house said.

NEW YORK (AP)—A terminally ill "Star Wars" fan is one of the first to see "Star Wars: The Force Awakens."

Daniel Fleetwood, a 31-year-old Texan who is suffering from cancer, had his wish granted to

see the highly anticipated film on Thursday. His wife, Ashley, celebrated on her Facebook page that Daniel saw an unfinished version of the movie, thanks to the film's producers and director, J.J. Abrams.

Disney Studios confirmed the screening.

The news has drawn so much attention that Ashley Fleetwood on Friday requested news outlets to stop calling. She would prefer, she said, to spend more

time with Daniel.

Daniel had lobbied online for a chance to see the movie, due out Dec. 18. Diagnosed with spindle cell carcinoma, he's been given just a few months to live.

## 78-foot tree hoisted into place at Rockefeller Center

NEW YORK (AP)—A 78-foot Norway spruce from New York's Hudson Valley has been installed at Rockefeller Center for the Christmas season.

The 10-ton tree was hoisted into place Friday. It will be illuminated on Dec. 2.

The tree was cut down from the property of Albert Asendorf and Nancy Puchalski in Gardiner, New York. It was put on a trailer for the 80-mile trip to midtown Manhattan.

The annual tree-lighting ceremony at Rockefeller Center attracts tens of thousands of spectators and is watched by millions more on television.

After the holidays, the tree will be milled into lumber for Habitat for Humanity.



AP  
A Norway Spruce at least 75 feet high, from Gardiner, N.Y., draws attention after being placed in its new location as the 2015 Rockefeller Center Christmas tree, Friday, Nov. 6, 2015, in New York.

## Hardwicke blasts back with Gaga video, dramedy

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Catherine Hardwicke is not bitter.

She did, after all, direct the first episode in the blockbusting "Twilight" series in 2008, which went on to make an impressive \$400 million at the box office.

But since then, Hardwicke's been at the helm of just three features, each low-to-modestly budgeted.

There was the 2011 fantasy-mystery "Red Riding Hood" with Amanda Seyfried, the 2013 indie thriller "Push" and, now, the Toni Collette-Drew Barrymore tearjerker "Miss You Already," which distributor Roadside Attractions is offering up this weekend as counter programming to the Bond spectacular "Spectre."

Upon arriving for a recent

interview, Hardwicke's energy instantly filled the room. And with it, the buoyant and bright 60-year-old could have taken the visit anywhere. But given the director was invited to talk about Hollywood's gender gap, that subject is where the conversation quickly headed.

Hardwicke's acknowledged that the last eight years are not what she had expected, not after serving up the first "Twilight," which paved the way for men, and only men, to go on and direct the series' remaining four megahits.

Hardwicke said she mistakenly thought that after "Twilight," landing big-budget action films



Hardwicke

would be easier.

"The self-perpetuating myth," Hardwicke noted. "I'll go out for a job, but somebody will say, 'I'll have somebody who has five bigger action movies than you do.'"

Her response: "But how are we ever going to get those five bigger action movies if you don't hire us to do them?"

While Hardwicke continues the battle for gender equality in Hollywood, she has also cheerfully moved on. Earlier this year, she directed the widely acclaimed short film for Lady Gaga and Diane Warren's harrowing ballad "Til It Happens to You," dealing with the pain of

sexual assault.

Hardwicke recalled, half-jokingly, that Gaga "basically put a gun to my head and said, 'You're doing it.'"

Even while filming, Gaga and Warren's message about abuse was already making an impact, Hardwicke said. "Everybody on the crew, every single woman, came up and told me a personal story: not one in five, not three in five — five out of five." And, Hardwicke reminded, men suffer from abuse, too.

Hardwicke's "Miss You Already" follows best friends whose lives are at very different points. One of them (portrayed by Drew Barrymore) is trying to get pregnant, while the other (Toni Collette) battles breast cancer.

### SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

#### Man to play iconic lead in "Hello Dolly"

BOCA RATON, Florida

(AP)—A Boca Raton production of "Hello Dolly" is breaking ground with a male taking on the iconic lead role made famous by Carol Channing and Barbra Streisand. Boca Raton's Wick Theatre had to get special permission from composer Jerry Herman. The Sun-Sentinel reports it will be the first production in the U.S. where the role of Dolly Levi has been played by a man. Danny La Rue took on the role in England in 1982. This time around, Lee Roy Reams is stepping into the part. Reams starred opposite Channing twice in the Tony-award winning show and has even directed it. The musical tells the story of a matchmaker who sweeps into the staid lives of a Yonkers store owner and his staff, as well

as two ladies in a New York millinery. The show runs through Dec. 6.

#### Supermodel Gisele Bündchen launches photo book in Brazil

SAO PAULO (AP)—Brazilian supermodel Gisele Bündchen has launched a book of over 300 photographs spanning her 20-year career just months after retiring from the catwalk. Fan Marcelo Spencer says he arrived at midnight to be first in line for Friday's debut in Sao Paulo and get his copy of "Gisele" signed by the supermodel, who retired in April. Spencer says Bündchen treated him "very well" and wrote a simple dedication inside: "To Marcelo, handsome, blond, tall and thin. From your diva, Gisele." The Portuguese-language version of "Gisele" sells for either \$500 or \$925 for the deluxe edition.

## Husband's long tresses are stressing his wife

DEAR ABBY: My husband, who has a beautiful head of dark curly hair, decided to let it grow. It is now about halfway down his back. Sometimes he braids it or pulls it into a ponytail. Other times he wears it down and it falls loose. The problem is, I can't bear to look at him.

He has always been clean-cut and had short hair. But as time has gone on and many of his friends have begun losing their hair, he says he wants to grow his out while he can.

I know that in the grand scheme of life, hair shouldn't be an issue, but I can't seem to get past this. I think it's because of the way he used to look. I can't talk to him about it because he really likes his hair. This feels like MY problem, but how can I deal with it?

TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING

DEAR TOO MUCH: If you can't look at your spouse because his flowing tresses are a turnoff, this must be affecting many aspects of your marriage. Although he likes his hair long, if you address it in those terms he may be willing to listen. However, just as women should be free to wear their hair the way they want, the same should apply to males.

P.S. I'm surprised his friends want to hang around with a walking reminder that they are follicly challenged.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I went to a Mexican resort with five other couples for a seven-day vacation. On the second day, one of the wives, "Sandra," received the news that her sister "Kate" had died unexpectedly. The funeral would not be held until two days after we returned.

Sandra's husband was furious at the family member for calling. What did they expect her to do, hop a plane? We were all affected by Sandra's loss. The first two days all five couples were having a ball. After that call it was like someone popped the balloon—it was never the same for any of us.

Some of us feel they could have waited until the last day before calling, although I personally think they should have waited until she got home. Sandra and Kate were completely dissimilar and not close. Even Sandra said, "Well, at least I had two good days of vacation." Should the family have waited?

DISGUSTED IN WISCONSIN

DEAR DISGUSTED: It depends, I think, upon the dynamics in the sisters' family and to what degree Kate's death was a shock to everyone. When death happens out of the blue, people sometimes react emotionally rather than rationally, which may be why the relative called immediately.

## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



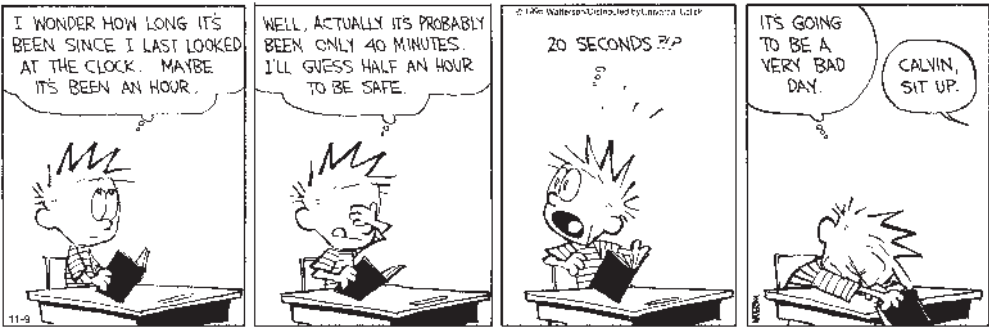
I agree with the friends who said the sad news could have been conveyed on the last day of the trip. Had Sandra been told immediately upon her return home, she might have been grateful. On the other hand, she also might have been furious, saying, "How could you keep this from me!?" That said, in my opinion it would have been kinder to let Sandra and her husband enjoy their holiday, since it was already too late to rush to the sister's bedside.

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Ash or yew

5 Pres. on a dime

8 Clunk

12 O'Neal, to NBA fans

13 Abel's mom

14 Swiss river

15 Lima's land

16 Bath product for kids

18 Deli cut

20 "Finally!"

21 Jazzy Horne

23 Poet's dusk

24 Big name in pies

28 Cot spot

31 Sen. McCain's party

32 Old Roman port

34 Fish spawn

35 Jell-O shaper

**DOWN**

11 Insect repellent ingredient

17 Sport — (SUV)

19 Note

22 Top room

24 "Ben-Hur"

25 Pooh's pal

26 Soup legume

27 Jennifer Lopez, for one

29 At once

30 Hot brew

33 "Stat!"

36 Ambitions

38 Writer Allende

40 Curve

42 CPR

43 Tennis great Arthur

44 Village People hit

46 Food carrier

47 Retain

48 Urges

50 Shot spot

**Solution time: 27 mins.**

**Friday's answer 11-9**

**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Nick Lachey, 42; Eric Dane, 43; Susan Tedeschi, 45; Lou Ferrigno, 64.

**Happy Birthday:** Don't let impulsiveness take over or fear stand between you and progress. It will be a fine line to walk at a time when you should let your intuition guide you. The gains you make will be based on how you treat others and what you are willing to do. It's important to offer your best and to play to win. Your numbers are 5, 17, 21, 27, 33, 44, 47.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** A short trip or visit to a place you haven't been before will spark your enthusiasm and help you see things differently. Avoid a confrontation with someone you live with or interact with every day. You'll be fighting a losing battle. \*\*\*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Open up about the way you feel and what your expectations are, and you will get a good response. Be forthright and willing to go after your goals with or without help. Your dedication will encourage others to pitch in. \*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Offering to help others will bring you satisfaction and good fortune. An emotional situation at home will change based on a decision you make regarding your profession. Don't keep secrets or someone will become suspicious and critical. Make physical improvements. \*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Flaunt what you have to offer. Mingle, network and make the most of any opportunity you get to present and promote what you have to offer. You will interest someone who wants to collaborate with you. \*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** You'll have plenty of choices, but if you insist on doing everything yourself, you will fall short. Pick what you feel is the best fit for you and give it your all. Be honest about what you can and cannot do. \*\*\*\*

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Take care of business. Update your resume. Don't be afraid to let others know what you are capable of doing. Address emotional issues. You can make changes, but do so for the right reasons and with a thoughtful attitude. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Communication and sharing thoughts and ideas will help you find solutions. Look at the big picture and prepare to take action. An opportunity will develop if you attend a meeting, networking event or trade show. Give your best effort. \*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Keep life simple. Don't overspend or get into a dispute with someone you don't agree with. Concentrate on being your best and making personal changes that will make you feel good. Love and romance look promising. \*\*\*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Be open and receptive when dealing with friends and family. You will accomplish a lot more if you have the help of others. Take care of

**EUGENIA LAST**

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Don't let your emotions come between you and common sense. Compromise will be required in order to keep the peace. The more you do to appease the people around you, the more you will get in return. Concentrate on professional gains. \*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Discussions aren't likely to go as you anticipated. Take a step back, take care of your responsibilities, and give yourself a little time to rethink your strategy regarding partnerships that may need adjustments. Offer affection, not criticism. \*\*\*\*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** You can expect a financial reward. Investment opportunities are apparent and will open up doors to a bigger and better future. Connect with people who can help you turn your goals into a reality. Don't just talk; take action. \*\*\*

**Birthday Baby:** You are relentless, courageous and insightful. You are unique and mindful. Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](https://twitter.com/eugenialast).

**SUDOKU**

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer**

Difficulty Level ★ 11/09

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**WONDERWORD** By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

**CITIES ON LAKES** Solution: 8 letters

P S A C K E T S A R N I A M B  
O L T N I A G A R A S U E I E  
R A A W I N D S O R N G O L  
T E L T H O S A W A T F C H L  
C K Y U T O L P E O O M A E A  
O A C R B S E E R R I R C E G  
L L F I A B E K S B T A K I  
B D Y F W G T U T O R O V U O  
O N C C N S D H R S I R O A L  
R A H A E A E S S G I O L W A  
N R I H L N B K O A H N R L F  
E G C L M I N N E S O T A I F  
I O A G R A N A D A R O K M U  
R K G E N E V A I J D I M E B  
E L O C H A W E M U S K O K A

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Annecy, Ashtabula, Banff, Bellagio, Bemidji, Bigfork, Buffalo, Chicago, Dal Lake, Erie, Gary, Geneva, Granada, Grand Lake, Harbors, Karlovac, Kelowna, Keswick, Loch Awe, Manila, Manistee, Mentor, Milwaukee, Minnesota, Muskoka, Niagara, Plattsburgh, Port Colborne, Rochester, Sackets, Sarnia, Simcoe, Tahoe, Tawas, Toronto, Windsor

**Last Friday's Answer: Dream Big**

Purchase **WONDERWORD** books in time for the holidays! Visit [WonderWordBooks.com](http://WonderWordBooks.com) or call 1-800-642-6480.



# Harden scores 46, Rockets hang on to beat Clippers, 109-105



**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Seven games into the season, the Houston Rockets have already experienced more ups and downs than most teams. They lost their first three games and have turned things around to win four in a row.

Much of it is due to James Harden, who scored a season-high 46 points in his second straight game over 40 to help the Rockets beat the Los Angeles Clippers 109-105 Saturday night.

Harden made 13 of 14 free throws and was 5 of 10 from 3-point range a night after he scored 43 in a 116-110 win at Sacramento.

"We got some open shots and I was just being aggressive," Harden said. "These last couple games when we have been playing well, our defense has led to easy buckets in transition for our offense, so that's what we have to hang our hat on."

Blake Griffin had 35 points and 11 rebounds for the Clippers, who played without Chris Paul. The star point guard sat out with a sore right groin as Los Angeles lost at home for the first time in four games.

"We needed to make things tougher for James," Griffin said. "We needed to make him drive, but he's good at that just like he's a good shooter. He had it going and we need to do a better job by committee."

Marcus Thornton added 16 points, and Dwight Howard had 20 points and 20 rebounds for the Rockets.

With Thornton and Harden hitting 3-pointers, Houston led by 11 midway through the fourth.

The Clippers responded by outscoring the Rockets 17-6, tying it at 105 on a 3-pointer from the left corner by Paul Pierce

with 41 seconds to go.

J.J. Redick fouled Harden, who made both to put Houston ahead 107-105.

After a timeout, Griffin put the ball up and it hit the rim and bounced away, with the Clippers arguing Howard should have been called for goaltending. Paul, dressed in street clothes, came on the court during a timeout to make a case with one of the referees.

"That's textbook goaltending," Griffin said. "The review really didn't help us."

After a video review, the ball was awarded to Houston with 17 seconds to go. Ty Lawson made two free throws for a four-point lead before Jamal Crawford's 3-pointer missed at the buzzer.

"I thought our entire team played like they had cement boots on the first three games," Houston coach Kevin McHale said. "We were just slow. When you watch the film we just looked sickly. We were able to turn the corner and get downhill."

Redick added 19 points and DeAndre Jordan had 11 points and 14 rebounds for the Clippers.

## Warriors 103, Kings 94

In Sacramento, Calif., Stephen Curry scored 21 of his 24 points in the second half, leading the undefeated Warriors to the road win.

Golden State (7-0) is off to its best start since moving to the West Coast. The defending NBA champions are two wins away from matching the Philadelphia Warriors' 9-0 franchise-best start in 1960-61.

Klay Thompson scored 18 points and Andre Iguodala had 14 for Golden State, which has won 74 of its last 89 games dating to last season. Harrison Barnes scored 13 points on



4-for-17 shooting.

Marco Bellinelli and Rudy Gay each scored 22 points for the Kings, losers of five straight. Rajon Rondo had 14 points, 12 rebounds and 15 assists for his 23rd career regular-season triple double.

## Hawks 114, Wizards 99

In Atlanta, Kent Bazemore scored a career-high 25 points, and the Hawks earned their seventh consecutive victory.

Paul Millsap had 21 points, seven rebounds and six assists for Atlanta, and Al Horford scored 14 points. Jeff Teague finished with 10 points, eight assists and five steals.

Otto Porter paced the Wizards with a career-high 23 points, but Washington committed 26 turnovers and was unable to stop Atlanta while it scored 39 points in

the final quarter.

John Wall had 19 points and 12 assists for the Wizards, while teammate Bradley Beal was held to a season-low 11 points and committed eight turnovers.

## Jazz 89, Grizzlies 79

In Salt Lake City, Trey Burke scored 24 points, including a career-high six 3-pointers, and Utah held on for the win.

The Jazz improved to 4-2 for their best start to a season since 2008-09.

Utah's Gordon Hayward had his best game of the season, finishing with 18 points, six rebounds and four assists while shooting 6 for 10 from the field. Derrick Favors had 12 points, 16 rebounds and three steals.

Memphis (3-4) had its worst shooting night of the season against the No. 1 defense in

the NBA, going 30 for 91 from the field. Mike Conley had 20 points and five assists.

## Spurs 114, Hornets 94

In San Antonio, Kawhi Leonard scored 23 points, LaMarcus Aldridge had 16 and the Spurs pulled away for the win.

San Antonio made eight 3-pointers in the second half of its highest scoring game of the season. Patty Mills scored 15 points and Manu Ginobili added 13 for the Spurs, who have won both of their home games.

After going 1 for 7 on 3-pointers in the first half, San Antonio used its long-range shooting to go on a 20-2 run in the third quarter.

Following a three-point play by Leonard, San Antonio made four consecutive 3-pointers while building an 86-73 lead.

Kemba Walker scored 27 points for Charlotte, which had won two in a row. Al Jefferson added 13 points.

## Mavericks 107, Pelicans 98

In Dallas, Deron Williams had 16 of his 19 points in the second half and Dirk Nowitzki scored nine of his 18 in the fourth quarter as the Mavericks kept the Pelicans winless.

The Mavericks won their first game at home in three tries and dropped the Pelicans, who dressed only nine players, to 0-6.

Wesley Matthews snapped a 72-all tie with two free throws to key a 7-0 run that he finished with a three-point play. Nowitzki answered a Toney Douglas 3-pointer with one of his own and then dipped underneath Dante Cunningham on a post-up move to put the Mavericks up 84-75.

Anthony Davis had 25 points for New Orleans, while Eric Gordon and Ryan Anderson added 21 apiece.

Houston Rockets' James Harden, center, is defended by Los Angeles Clippers' J.J. Redick, left, and DeAndre Jordan during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, Nov. 7, 2015, in Los Angeles.

## Timberwolves 102, Bulls 93, OT

In Chicago, Andrewiggins scored 31 points, leading the Timberwolves to the road win.

Karl-Anthony Towns added 17 points, 13 rebounds and four blocked shots for Minnesota, which had lost two in a row. Fellow rookie Nemanja Bjelica also scored 17.

The Timberwolves outscored the Bulls 9-0 in the extra session, marking the first time in franchise history Chicago failed to score in an overtime period.

Towns' layup made it 98-93 with 2:32 to go, and then the No. 1 overall draft pick set up Tayshaun Prince for a layup with 30 seconds remaining.

Pau Gasol had 21 points and 14 rebounds for Chicago, which was coming off a 104-98 victory against Oklahoma City on Thursday night. Tony Snell scored 14 points.

## Bucks 94, Nets 86

In Milwaukee, Greg Monroe had 20 points and eight rebounds, powering Milwaukee to the win.

Monroe shot 8 of 16 from the floor and contributed his only two assists down the stretch for the Bucks, who handed the Nets their seventh straight loss to start the season.

Jerryd Bayless had 19 points on 7-of-13 shooting and 10 rebounds, and Khris Middleton chipped in with 14 points and nine rebounds.

Milwaukee has won four in a row after starting 0-3 for the first time since 1976-77.

Brook Lopez had 20 points for Brooklyn, and Thaddeus Young finished with 18 points and 13 rebounds.

## Magic 105, 76ers 97

In Philadelphia, Elfrid Payton scored 20 points, and the balanced Magic had seven players score in double figures in their third victory in four games.

Evan Fournier had 17 points for Orlando, and Victor Oladipo finished with 15 on 6-for-18 shooting. Dewayne Dedmon added 12 points, nine rebounds and three blocked shots.

Philadelphia's Nerlens Noel was ejected with 1:51 left in the third quarter after getting into a tussle with Orlando's Jason Smith, who was called for an offensive foul for elbowing Noel in the ribs. Noel finished with just two points—12 below his season average.

Isaiah Canaan scored 23 points for the winless Sixers, going 6 for 12 from 3-point range.

## Kobe prepares for his next, and perhaps his last trip to MSG

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Kobe Bryant always loved the history at Madison Square Garden, even before he made some of his own.

There's so much to soak in, from the famous faces sitting courtside to the jerseys of great players that hang overhead.

"I always try to take a look around, always try to kind of embrace the moment and kind of feel the energy a little," Bryant said. "I always try to make it a point to do that. Is it a little different this time around? Yeah."

That's because this time could be the last time.

The Lakers visit the New York Knicks on Sunday afternoon, Bryant's first game at MSG in nearly three years. And if his 20th season is indeed his last in the NBA, it will be his final trip to a building he loves performing in perhaps more than any other.

He's done it as well as anybody. His average of 30.7 points in 15 games is the highest among active players, according to STATS, and his 61 points there on Feb. 2, 2009, remains the record for a visitor.

And when he takes the floor Sunday, the memories of that night, maybe his first All-Star Game in 1998, and others will come rushing back. And just as quickly, Bryant will push them aside again.

"You think about it a little bit, but I block all that stuff out, just go out and play," Bryant said.

The Lakers are early in their first trip of the season, with most of the games against Eastern Conference teams they visit only once.

Bryant, 37, has said he doesn't know if this is his last season. But even if it is, he doesn't want one of those farewell tours where teams he's spent two decades battling

honor him. To Bryant, the best way to honor him is to try to beat him.

"I really just appreciate the game the way it's been played over the years and I appreciate the competition, so it's like, the biggest sign of respect to me would be to approach it just like it was any other game and try to kick our butt just like it was any other game," he said. "Those are the things that I hold extremely dear."

Knicks fans may want to beat him, but many will cheer him. It's always been that way in New York and that was proven again Friday night in Brooklyn, where he received such loud applause in the Lakers' 104-98 victory that Los Angeles coach Byron Scott said one Nets player told him it felt like a road game.

Scott expects more of the same Sunday.

"When you talk about New

York, they are basketball fans, big time," Scott said. "They love greatness and they're going to show their appreciation. No matter if they don't like you as a team or not, they love great players."

Knicks President Phil Jackson, Bryant's coach on five championship-winning teams, said before the season he didn't believe this would be Bryant's last season, but that perhaps it would be his last in Los Angeles.

But Bryant insisted again Friday that if he's still in the NBA next season, it will only be with the Lakers.

"How many times do I have to say it?" Bryant said. "I've said it so many times. I'm here, I'm a Laker for life. I'm not playing anywhere else no matter what. It's just not going to happen. I bleed purple and gold, and that's just how it's going to be."

# Dalton leads way as Bengals beat Browns 31-10, go to 8-0



## CINCINNATI

(AP)—Andy Dalton plopped down in the chair and didn't even wait for the first question.

"A little different from last year, huh?" he said, his eyes widening.

Different in every way—not only the Bengals quarterback, but for his still unbeaten team, too.

Dalton connected with tight end Tyler Eifert for three scores and played the role of blocker on Mohamed Sanu's reverse for a touchdown, setting up Cincinnati's 31-10 victory over the Cleveland Browns on Thursday night.

The Bengals improved to 8-0 for the first time in franchise history, their longest winning streak within a season.

"It seems like every week it's a first-time-ever," receiver Marvin Jones said. "It's all good. We've got to be 9-0 next and keep it moving."

Coming off an emotional 16-10 victory in Pittsburgh on Sunday that gave them control of the AFC North, the Bengals dominated the Browns (2-7) and Johnny Manziel in the second half.

Manziel had some of his best moments in the opening half,



Cincinnati Bengals wide receiver Mohamed Sanu (12) scores a touchdown as quarterback Andy Dalton (14) looks to block during the second half of an NFL football game against the Cleveland Browns, Thursday, Nov. 5, 2015, in Cincinnati. AP

against the team that taunted and then tormented him in his NFL debut last December, a 30-0 Bengals win. Coach Marvin Lewis referred to him as "a midget" leading up to the game, and several players mocked his "money-rubbing" gesture while frustrating him.

Instead of mocking him this time, they chased him around before ultimately shutting him down.

Manziel had some of his best NFL moments during a 10-play, 92-yard drive late in the first half that cut it to 14-10. He scrambled and threw a 12-yard touchdown pass to Duke Johnson with 19 seconds left, the type of play the Browns had expected to see a lot but have gotten so little from Johnny Football.

He couldn't do anything as the Bengals increased the pressure in the second half.

The Browns were missing top cornerback Joe Haden, safety Donte Whitner and receivers Brian Hartline and Andrew Hawkins to concussions.

Two penalties on Browns defensive end Randy Starks helped the Bengals pull ahead 14-3.

Starks jump-started Cincinnati's 80-yard touchdown drive with a taunting penalty after making a tackle. At the Cleveland 6, the Bengals went for it on fourth-and-2 but Dalton's pass was incomplete. However, Starks was offside on the play, giving the Bengals a first down. Dalton then threw his second touchdown pass to Eifert.

## NFL BRIEFS

### Titans QB Marcus Mariota will start Sunday against Saints

**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** (AP)—Tennessee Titans quarterback Marcus Mariota will return to the starting lineup Sunday to face the New Orleans Saints. Mariota, who is officially listed as probable, has missed the Titans' last two games with a sprained medial collateral ligament in his left knee. Mariota's injury occurred on a hit from Miami's Olivier Vernon, who was penalized for roughing the passer. "He's going to play," Titans interim coach Mike Mularkey said. "I think each day he has gotten better. To be on the turf (for Friday's practice) here, which is the same turf he's going to be on Sunday, it was good to see him move around like he did." Mariota will wear a brace to protect the knee, but Mularkey said he isn't concerned about any issues with his quarterback's mobility. "You can't simulate game speed, but that will show up on Sunday when the adrenaline gets flowing," Mularkey said. The Titans will be missing wide receiver Kendall Wright and cornerback Blidi Wreh-Wilson on Sunday. Wright has a sprained MCL in his left knee and Wreh-Wilson has a hamstring injury. Cornerback Jason McCourty hasn't practiced this week due to a groin injury and is listed as questionable. The Titans are expected to test him to see if he can play Sunday. If

McCourty isn't available, the Titans are expected to make a roster move to add another cornerback. Receiver Harry Douglas (ribs) and cornerback Perrish Cox (hamstring) both practiced fully all week and are probable. Linebacker Derrick Morgan also is probable after resting his sore ankle Friday.

### Ex-NFL QB McNabb to serve 18 days in an Arizona jail for DUI

**GILBERT, Ariz.** (AP)—Former NFL quarterback Donovan McNabb will serve 18 days in an Arizona jail after pleaded guilty to a non-extreme DUI. McNabb was stopped by police in the Phoenix suburb of Gilbert on June 28 while driving impaired. His attorney, Thomas Connelly, told Phoenix TV station KTVK on Friday that McNabb will serve 18 days in jail with work release and be under house arrest for the remainder of his 90-day sentence. Connelly didn't immediately return calls from The Associated Press. McNabb is scheduled to report to jail Nov. 30. The 38-year-old McNabb played 13 seasons in the NFL after being drafted with the second overall pick in 1999. He led the Philadelphia Eagles to four straight NFC championship games from 2001 to 2004 and one Super Bowl berth. After 11 seasons with the Eagles, he played for Washington in 2010 and Minnesota in 2011.

which ended with Cincinnati up only 14-10. In the second half, the Browns managed only 32 yards and two first downs.

"I'm pretty upset," said Manziel, who finished 15 of 33 for 168 yards and was sacked three times, all in the fourth quarter. "We had momentum coming into the second half. We just didn't do enough."

It was a night for the Bengals to show how far they've come in a year. And no one has improved more than Dalton, who had his worst showing—a 2.0 passer rating—during a

24-3 loss to the Browns during a Thursday night game at Paul Brown Stadium last November.

"It's huge to put ourselves in the position we're in, to stay undefeated," Dalton said. "Not a lot of teams have been 8-0 before. We understand that. It's hard to do."

He threw touchdown passes of 9 and 2 yards to Eifert in the first half, the latter after a Browns penalty kept a drive alive. Dalton also played lead blocker on Sanu's 25-yard TD reverse in the fourth quarter, a play that took the Browns by

such surprise that there was nobody there for the quarterback to touch.

"I was looking for somebody to block," Dalton said. "I didn't really know that Mo was right behind me. It was perfect execution."

His 19-yarder to Eifert put Cincinnati in control and gave the tight end nine touchdown catches, tying the Bengals record for a tight end and giving him the NFL lead.

Dalton finished 21 of 27 for 234 yards with a passer rating of 139.8.

Manziel got a rematch

## Detroit Lions fire team president and GM after 1-7 start

**ALLEN PARK, Mich.** (AP)—The one-win Detroit Lions, looking nothing like the team that reached the playoffs last season, fired team president Tom Lewand and general manager Martin Mayhew on Thursday and promised to bring in new leadership to put a consistent winner on the field.

"We are very disappointed with the results of the season so far and believe a change in leadership was necessary," said owner Martha Firestone Ford, reading from a prepared statement. She did not take questions.

The Lions are an NFC-worst 1-7 under second-year coach Jim Caldwell, whose staff was not affected by the changes a week after he replaced some assistants, including offensive coordinator Joe Lombardi.

Sheldon White, the Lions' vice president of pro personnel and a 19-year veteran of the organization, will be the team's acting general manager. Allison

Maki, chief financial officer, will oversee business operations for the team. Both will report directly to Ford.

"We are beginning a national search for the best leadership to manage our team going forward," Ford said. "I want to assure our fans that we intend to identify and hire the very best leadership in order to produce a consistently winning football team."

Ford's late husband, William Clay Ford, was often criticized for being too patient and loyal with the people in charge of running his front office and team. She appears to be taking a different approach, shaking up the franchise with bold moves that no one in the organization seemed to sense were coming this week.

The former executives took the fall for a franchise that is struggling after having relative success in recent years, including a 24-20 playoff loss in January at Dallas.

Lewand was in his 20th season with the Lions, and his sixth as president. He did not return a message seeking comment. Lewand was largely in charge of business operations, including negotiating contracts, and helped the franchise build Ford Field, the team's home since 2002.

Mayhew became the team's general manager early in the 2008 season when the team fired Matt Millen.

Millen, whose reign led to one of the worst stretches in NFL history, hired Mayhew in 2001 to be the team's senior director of football administration. Mayhew became assistant general manager in 2004 and was promoted seven years ago to replace Millen during the team's 0-16 season.

"I'm disappointed because I wanted those guys to do well, and for the Ford family to do well," Millen said in a telephone interview Thursday. "Anytime

you make changes, you're beginning another process."

The Lions have failed to draft well enough to win and their other moves—or lack of them, such as losing defensive lineman Ndamukong Suh in free agency—have often missed the mark.

Detroit reached the playoffs in 2011 for the first time since the 1999 season, but the languishing franchise has just one playoff victory since winning the 1957 NFL title and that came in 1991—a long time ago. Only the Cincinnati Bengals, who haven't won a playoff game since the 1990 season, have gone longer without success in the postseason.

"Our fans deserve a winning football team and we will do everything possible to make it a reality," Ford said. "I also want to make it clear that we have no intention of giving up on this season. We expect our team to compete, improve and win."

# Sabathia: No turning back after deciding on alcohol rehab

**NEW YORK** (AP)—When CC Sabathia decided during a weekend of drinking in Baltimore that he needed to enter alcohol rehabilitation, there was no turning back.

“I was 100 percent making that decision,” the New York Yankees pitcher said Friday. “I’m always upfront and honest about my problems, and this is one of them. So I felt like I needed to make this public and stop hiding from people and kind of make sure I’m doing the right steps to be right.”

Sabathia left the team on the final day of the regular season, and on Oct. 5 he checked into Silver Hill Hospital in New Canaan, Connecticut. He emerged in public this week with a televised interview broadcast Friday on ABC’s “Good Morning America,” a pair of sit-downs with New York newspapers and an appearance Friday night at Bowlmor Times Square, where his PitCCh In Foundation hosted its annual fundraiser.

“It just wasn’t any one thing. It wasn’t any one event,” he said to reporters as his guests arrived. “It was just me trying to get ahold of this problem that I have, and I felt like that was the best way to do it, was to check myself into a rehab.”

Sabathia first realized three years ago he was an alcoholic, telling ABC he would stay sober for two or three months, then relapse. He entered the clinic a day before the Yankees’ 3-0 loss to Houston in the one-game AL wild-card playoff.

“I would hope that fans understood why I did it when I did it—as a man, as a person, as a father, as a husband,” he said.

The 35-year-old left-hander was 6-10 with a 4.73 ERA this



New York Yankees pitcher CC Sabathia speaks to reporters in New York, Friday, Nov. 6, 2015. AP

season, slowed by a chronic knee injury. A six-time All-Star and the 2007 AL Cy Young Award winner, Sabathia has struggled through three straight subpar seasons, going 23-27 while trying to adjust to decreased velocity and pitching through knee pain.

Sabathia said he did not drink before his outings, and that he got drunk with alcohol from hotel minibars during road trips. He thinks Yankees teammates will help him avoid a relapse.

“If my behavior changes or my attitude changes, they can, you know, kind of call me out and say, ‘Hey, what’s going on,’” he said. “Instead of before, you know, me hiding or trying to be secretive about it.”

Teammates Carlos Beltran and Dellin Betances attended the fundraiser, and Alex Rodriguez was due to arrive later in the evening.

“We were all surprised as a team,” Beltran said. “It was something that was really kill-

ing him inside, and he needed to address it. There were no options for him.”

Beltran had not seen any hints of trouble.

“CC’s a very happy man. Fun,” he said. “No signs.”

Now that he has been released from rehab, Sabathia is looking forward to the start of spring training in mid-February.

“I’ve already been playing catch. It’s been nice weather. It’s hard for me to stay away,” he said. “Since I’ve been out al-

ready, I mean it’s been less than a week, and I’ve been playing catch pretty much every day.”

Sabathia has had a difficult time staying healthy. He had a bone spur removed from his left elbow in October 2012, ended the following season with a strained left hamstring and didn’t pitch after mid-May in 2014 because of a right knee injury that required surgery that July.

This year he went on the disabled list Aug. 24 because of right knee inflammation. He returned Sept. 9 with a new knee

brace and went 2-1 with a 2.17 ERA in his last five starts.

“The knee feels great. I did cardio the whole time I was in there, and I haven’t had any problem,” he said. “This will be the first normal offseason I had in a couple of years, to be able to work and really get the rehabbing right with my knee and get my legs strong to be able to pitch a whole season. My goal next year is to make all my starts and not go on the DL, and I feel like if I can do that, then my numbers will be there if I’m healthy.”

## CNMI

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tered in the 32nd, 53rd, and 59th minute. Players who scored for Chinese-Taipei were not mentioned in the information sent to *Saipan Tribune* by team manager Eric Abragan and official match report was unavailable at the event’s website at press time.

“I did not really pay attention to the score but we had many chances of scoring, especially from Eddie and John Michael. Obviously Chinese-Taipei is bigger, faster, and more skilled. The boys played better in the second half, most them were nervous during first half. Overall, I can say they played their best, they listened to the coaches, and they enjoyed playing. As expected, the first-timers were surprised with Chinese-Taipei’s level of football. Hopefully, they can learn from this game. For sure the boys will do better in the next games,” said Angeles, who is being assisted by Taketomo Suzuki.

Seven of the 18 CNMI players suited up in the team’s opening match with goalie Floyd Muna starting out for the Teen Ayuyus. He was joined by Kirt Andon, Thaiphi Austria, Kirro Batin, Edward Cho, Kaden

Church, Mark Esalan, Eun Syu Hahn, Sebastian Manabat, Ian Maniago, and John Michael Rojas, while Justin Achas, Razeff Altamirano, Lolobeyong Benito, Taka Borka, Angelo Bergancia, and Jhoey Noble were the substitutes. The team’s other goalie, Jason Quimzon, missed the opener due to an injury he sustained during practice last Saturday, but Abragan said the former will be able to play today with the Teen Ayuyus having back-to-back matches.

The CNMI will collide first against Hong Kong at 11:30am and will be back at the pitch at 4pm for a highly-anticipated showdown against Guam. Guam had its first game against powerhouse Hong Kong yesterday morning and the host also challenged powerhouse North Korea in the afternoon pairing, but results of both matches were unavailable at press time. The Teen Ayuyus will face the favored North Koreans tomorrow in the first game of the day at 10am.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS				
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	5	1	.833	—
Boston	2	3	.400	2½
New York	2	4	.333	3
Philadelphia	0	6	.000	5
Brooklyn	0	7	.000	5½
Southeast Division				
Atlanta	7	1	.875	—
Washington	3	3	.500	3
Miami	3	3	.500	3
Orlando	3	4	.429	3½
Charlotte	2	4	.333	4
Central Division				
Cleveland	5	1	.833	—
Detroit	4	1	.800	½
Chicago	4	3	.571	1½
Milwaukee	4	3	.571	1½
Indiana	3	3	.500	2
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
San Antonio	4	2	.667	—
Houston	4	3	.571	½
Dallas	3	3	.500	1
Memphis	3	4	.429	1½
New Orleans	0	6	.000	4
Northwest Division				
Portland	4	2	.667	—
Utah	4	2	.667	—
Minnesota	3	2	.600	½
Oklahoma City	3	3	.500	1
Denver	2	4	.333	2
Pacific Division				
Golden State	7	0	1.000	—
L.A. Clippers	4	2	.667	2½
Phoenix	3	3	.500	3½
L.A. Lakers	1	4	.200	5
Sacramento	1	6	.143	6

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## THIRD

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with a single with Jeff Diaz’s single sandwiching a Juan Diaz infield fly.

Joe Lizama singled to right to bring in Camacho and Jeff Diaz to open up Brotherhood’s scoring with Ken Kaipat, Ton Marchen, John Tomokane, John Terlaje, and Bill Aguon joining the hit barrage.

Brotherhood, also the pennant champions, had 10 hits

alone against Masters pitcher John Cepeda in the second inning.

The Masters’ Game 1 loss put to waste Rep. Ralph Yumul’s 4-for-4 effort. He also had two runs, a triple, and three RBIs.

Jude Dickerson and Jeff Cabrera had solo shots in the first and seventh innings.

After a 30-minute break, Brotherhood and the Masters were at it again but this time the latter threatened to extend the series to a do-or-die match.

The Masters, after tying the score at 3-3 after one inning, needed a pair of runs by Reno Celis, and one each by Dickerson, Yumul, and Ben Mesa to enjoy an 8-4 lead entering the sixth.

Brotherhood, however, showed championship poise to send the game into an extra inning and then completed their comeback behind Hocog’s two-run homer.

Bill Aguon doubled to left to start things off for Brotherhood.

Ayuyu, after Ben Hocog struck out swinging, had an RBI single to let Aguon reach home plate.

Camacho singled, moving Ayuyu to second but they were left stranded following a Juan Diaz fly out to left field for the second out.

Jeff Diaz made it 8-7 as his single drove in Ayuyu and Camacho. He later scored on an error by Masters pitcher Ike Cabrera and the inning ended with another fly out by Ken Kaipat.

Both teams failed to score in

the seventh sending the game to an extra inning that set up Hocog’s game-winning two-run shot.

Juan Diaz shot down the Masters in the bottom of the eighth, forcing Dennis Ngeskebei to ground out on a 5-3 put out play and Jeff Cabrera to an infield fly for the quick two outs. He gave up a single to Dickerson, but ended the game when he forced Yumul to fly out to left that was easily caught by Camacho.

## NMIFA

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supported CNMI football,” said Tan during the send-off ceremony for the CNMI U13 National Team last Thursday, two days before the Teen Ayuyus left for Guam to join the East Asian Football Federation Boys U13 Festival 2015 at the Leo Palace Resort Field.

“Once in Guam and you see you people from EAFF, please thank them for giving this opportunity to us,” said Tan, ad-

ressing the U13 players. “

EAAF is holding a festival for U13 for the first time, while NMIFA had also sent the CNMI girls U14, boys U14, boys U16, and boys U19 to Asian Football Confederation-sanctioned events and the CNMI Women’s All-Star to the Luen Thai Cup in Hong Kong.

“We would also like to thank AFC for allowing us to compete in the festival in China and the qualifiers in Laos and Thailand,” the NMIFA head said.

Tan also recognized NMI-

FA technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi, former technical director Johann Noetzel, and Chelsea FC Soccer School (Hong Kong) technical director Luam Khen Koo, who attended the send-off ceremony. The three officials have been training or have trained past and present national team players. Noetzel, who now plays in a pro league in the Philippines, planned in last week to work with the Teen Ayuyus’ goalies. Sekiguchi coached the U16 and U19 teams in the AFC

qualifiers, while Koo called the shots for the boys U14 squad in Beijing and also helped in the tryouts for the U13 crew when Sekiguchi and Angeles were still off-island.

Tan added the players’ parents and club coaches and officials also played important roles in this year’s fete and he hopes to see more CNMI players, especially the youth, be given the opportunity to compete in international tournaments.

Meanwhile, besides sending a team to the festival in Guam,

# VM, Armatech clobber foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



VM Production and Armatech waltzed past their respective opponents in the masters division of the 2015 San Antonio Community Action Network Basketball League.

VM Production whipped Maplas last Wednesday, 93-63, for the former's second win in three games, while Armatech pounded CES Electronics last Thursday, 95-62, to improve to a 3-1 record. Maplas and CES remained winless in the inaugural season of the league with the latter dropping to a 0-5 slate and the former falling to a 0-3 card.

A balanced offense and much deeper bench allowed VM Production to notch a 30-point winning margin against Maplas. Three players scored in double

figures for VM Production with Henry Manipon leading the way with his 18 points and Vhoie Francia and Amor Zapata backing him up after adding 17 and 10, respectively. Six other VM Production players contributed at least 6 points each and three more made it to the board, while Maplas had only seven of their eight players scoring in the blowout.

Despite its depleted roster, Maplas managed to keep up with VM Production in the first half, trailing by only 4, 36-40. Maplas even had the advantage at the end of the first canto, 18-16, behind the pair of free throws from Ralph Surla.

However, VM Production started pulling away in the third with Francia converting a couple of fastbreak layups and the lefty Manipon connecting on his pull-up jumpers. By the end of the third, VM Production

widened the gap, 65-49, and it kept going in the fourth to finish off the hapless Maplas.

In the Armatech-CES Electronics tiff, the former also had full control of the match in the second half to deny the latter its elusive first win.

Armatech was only ahead by 6 at halftime, 37-31, as CES made a little headway in the second quarter after facing an 11-24 deficit in the first. However, Armatech regained the double-digit spread in the third period, 68-42, with Bruce Berline asserting his might in the paint, knocking in 9 of his total points in that canto.

Berline went on to top-score for Armatech with his 24 markers, while James Abuy, Manny Duenas, and Martin Moreno also had double figures, chipping in 18, 14, and 12, respectively. Sonny Ebuen led another losing cause for CES, as he tallied 17 points.

Meanwhile, in the second

masters game last Wednesday, Blue Haus was holding a precarious 65-64 lead against GMJ/IKKI when the game was halted by rain at the 8:57 mark of the fourth quarter. The match was scheduled to resume last night and results were unavailable at press time.

## Wednesday Game

**VM Production 93** – Manipon 18, Francia 17, Zapata 10, Ramos 8, Buhay 8, Sanchez 7, Castro 6, Geli 6, Barrozo 6, Marcelo 4, Bondoc 3, Catacutan 2.

**Maplas 63** – Surima 20, Manuel 16, Yalung 12, Surla 8, Barrios 3, Salazar 2, Dela Rama 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 16-18, 40-36, 65-49, 93-63.

## Thursday Game

**Armatech 95** – Berline 24, Abuy 18, Duenas 14, Moreno 12, Gabaldon 8, Pablo 6, Park 5, Malasarte 4, Canedo 4.

**CES Electronics 62** – S. Ebuen 17, Farinas 8, Abadilla 8, Echavez 7, Capuyon 6, Tobias 6, Tibayan 6, O. Ebuen 4.

**Scoring by quarters:** 24-11, 37-31, 68-42, 98-62.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
VM Production's Henry Manipon pulls up for a jumper against Maplas defenders during the fourth quarter of their masters game in the San Antonio caging last Wednesday at the San Antonio court.

## Harry, Pina top Laolao employees golf



JON PEREZ

Harry Nakamura, left, and Pina Magofna show off their winnings after topping the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort employees' two-person best ball golf tournament last Friday at the Kagman golf facility.

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER



Harry Nakamura and Pina Magofna bested nine other pairs to rule the inaugural Laolao Bay Golf & Resort employees' golf tournament held last Friday at the west course of the Kagman golf facility.

The tournament, which used a two-person scramble best ball format, was held after the team-building event of the golf and resort's staff.

Nakamura, a member of the four-person CNMI men's golf team in this year's Port Moresby Pacific Games in Papua New Guinea, and Magofna scored a net score of 71 to clinch the \$50 cash prize. They also placed fourth in the gross score category behind three other pairs.

Laolao Bay local market developer Franco Santos, who is

also a member of the golf team in the XV Pacific Games, and teammate Taesik Woo ruled the low gross score with 74. They also went home with \$50.

The pairs of Laolao Bay golf course operations manager Tony Satur and Maria Beltran and Laolao Bay president Chang ho Kim and Jacob Lizama ended up tied for second but the former clinched runner-up honors after the tiebreak.

A total of 20 employees joined the tournament where Satur paired the experienced players with the beginners.

Magofna, who is Laolao Bay's acting human resources manager, said management is planning to hold the two-person scramble tournament as a regular event for their employees.

"We're looking to make this a semi annual tournament as a team-building event and also to encourage the staff to learn the

sport," added Magofna.

Management also honored 49 of its employees who have been with the hotel and golf resort from five to 20 years. They gave the loyal employees certificates.

Pedro Chicano, Mar Cruz, Jack San Nicolas, and Gil Santos were the longest-serving employees as they have been with Laolao Bay for 20 years. They also received complimentary bottles of wine.

An appreciation banquet was also held hosted by Satur's team that won the barbecue contest.

"Instead of splitting the money for my team, we decided to hold this banquet as a get-together for the management and the staff," said Satur.

Sales & marketing manager for Korean market Sang Jin Park and hotel manager Dae Hyun Lee were some of the officials who were also present during the awarding and banquet.

## Alamo crew triumphs in Thursday billiards

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

The National Alamo Rent-A-Car crew made short work of Wild Bill's as the new season of the Saipan Billiards Association-Budweiser Open 8-Ball Thursday League kicked off last Nov. 5 in various bars on the island.

Alamo, behind Rey Hermogenes and Manny Mariano's impressive performances, cruised to an 11-2 triumph over the unmanned Wild Bill West side to grab the early lead in the 20-week long league that ends on April 7, 2016.

Hermogenes went undefeated in the five matches in the singles and partner's 8-ball events that he played. Mariano duplicated the feat four times.

Hermogenes opened up the one-sided contest by beating

Victor Formales in singles play then his team up Mariano resulted to a walkover win after Wild Bill's could only come up with only three players.

Wild Bill's had to default another singles event then two more matches in partner's 8-ball. Their two wins were courtesy of Formales and Nong Detdon.

In other games, the Jokers Homeboyz rallied from 0-3 down in completing a 9-4 decision against Jokers Wild-Boyz, while the Wild Bill's Rack 'N' Roll escaped with a 7-6 win over Jonny's Team SCS.

Action in SBA's two weekly leagues continues tomorrow with the Jokers Straight-BlackBall going up against sister team and early leader Destroyers, while the Jonny's Crazy 8 will visit the Jokers

Docomo Hustlers and Jonny's Titans will host the Jokers IT&E Voyagers.

On Thursday, it will be an all-Wild Bill's match between the Wild Wild West and the Rack 'N' Roll and National Alamo facing the Homeboyz. Team SCS and the Homeboyz will duke it off in the other contest to be held at Jonny's Bar & Grill in Garapan.

League organizers are also informing all teams in the Thursday League that there will be no games on Thanksgiving (Nov. 26), Christmas Eve, and New Year's Eve to give players the chance to celebrate the holidays.

There will be games on Nov. 19, the Thursday before Thanksgiving, while the last contest before going on a two-week break is on Dec. 17. Action resumes on Jan. 7, 2016.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of Wild Bill's Rack 'N' Roll and Jonny's Team SCS enjoy a light moment before their match in the Saipan Billiards Association-Budweiser Open 8-Ball Thursday League last Nov. 5 at Wild Bill's Bar & Grill in Garapan.



Harden scores 46, Rockets hang on to beat Clippers, 109-105

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VM, Armatech clobber foes

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Third straight for Brotherhood

By JON PEREZ  
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REPORTER

Brotherhood showed that they are still the kings of the Belau Men's Slow-pitch Softball League.



Behind the bats of Ben Hocog and Julian Camacho, Brotherhood swept the San Antonio Masters in their best-of-three title series held yesterday under a windy but 89-degree weather at the Dandan Softball Field.

Brotherhood completed their three-peat bid with a 17-11 win in the opener then finished off their opponents with a come-from-behind 10-8 decision in the finals, which was delayed for three weeks due to various reasons.

Hocog went a combined 6-for-10 in the series and played the hero's role in Brotherhood's Game 2 win with Camacho going 7-for-7 as they filled



Team Brotherhood flashes the No. 3 sign after claiming their third straight title with a two-game sweep of the San Antonio Masters in the finals of the Belau Men's Slow-pitch Softball League yesterday at the Dandan Softball Field.

the void of Jerry Ayuyu, who seemed to be out of his element in the finals.

Hocog also scored three times in Game 1 with Camacho and Ton Marchen adding two each.

Brotherhood used a 10-run second inning as enough cushion, while Hocog punctuated

their Game 1 win with a solo home run in the top of the sixth. Camacho led off Brother-

hood's second-inning hit parade  
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## CNMI drops opener in EAFF festival

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

CNMI U13 National Team fell to Chinese-Taipei, 0-7, in their opening game in the East Asian Football Federation Boys U13 Festival 2015 yesterday at the Leo Palace Resort Field in Guam.

Chinese-Taipei scored four

goals in the first half to take control of the match and never looked back to deny the Teen Ayuyus a good start in the five-country event.

The Jerish Angeles-coached CNMI held its de-



fense in the first nine minutes of the match before Chinese-Taipei found the back of the net in the 10th minute. Chinese-Taipei went on to notch its second and third goals in the 23rd and

25th minute and closed out the first half with another goal inside the final minute of opening frame. Each game in the festival has 30-minute halves. Chinese-Taipei's other goals were regis-

**See CNMI on Page 26**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players of the CNMI U13 National Team pose for a photo at the Leo Palace Resort before their opening game in the East Asian Football Federation Boys U13 Festival 2015 yesterday in Guam.

## SIDEBAR

### NMIFA extends kudos to supporters

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

As the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association held a send-off ceremony for its sixth and last national team participating in an off-island tournament this year, NMIFA president Jerry Tan can't help but thank those who made this

achievement possible. "Wow, this year we've sent the most teams to off-island events. In the past, we're lucky to have two or three, but now we had six. That goes to show how far our program has gone and that's because of the people who put in a lot of work and

**See NMIFA on Page 26**



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

From left NMIFA technical director Kiyoshi Sekiguchi, former NMIFA technical director Johann Noetzel, and Chelsea FC Soccer School (Hong Kong) technical director Luam Khen Koo pose for a group photo after attending the send-off ceremony for the CNMI U13 National Team last Thursday at the lobby of Kanoa Resort.